Ride Along With The City's Bike Cops Festival Reports: Nextfest, The Works, Improvaganza An Exploding Stomach Nearly Takes Out Japandroids Homeless For A Night In Telus Field

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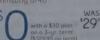




















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7 feature professional party poopers

Our intrepid reporter (and bicycling amateur) goes on a two-wheeled patrol with the police cycle unit.

10 Opinion out of our cars, and into The streets

This weekend's events showcased a town full of community and culture. If only it were always so.

MUSIC THEIR CAREER HAS EXPLODED - AND SO HAS THEIR STOMACH

Japandroids got a career-making review from Pitchfork ... only to have an ulcer nearly kill them.

35 ON SCREEN ITHINKI CAN BROW-BEAT MIKE TYSON

Athlete? Misogynist? Family man? Rapist? Thug? James Toback's *Tyson* suggests that the boxer might be all of these.

Warts this kind of stuff just can't be scripted!

Improvaganza continues its relentless campaign to put Canada's playwrights out of business.

46 Savage love can dan Bring some HOPE TO MY HOPELESS SITUATION?

Nope! Whether you stay with your boyfriend or run off with your old flame, someone's getting hurt.

50 the back assorted goodies

Municipal Happenings with Bill Benson!

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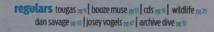
 Pics and Video From Nextfest, The Pride Parade and Improvaganza



21

HOT OFF THE STREETS

SEE Magazine's third annual street fashion shoot is far from pedestrian. Complete photo gallery at seemagazine.com. PHOTOS BY MERYL SMITH LAWTON and IAN JACKSON



Here's Looking At You, Edmonton

notes from the editors

If you missed the call for our third annual street fashion shoot, you can check out the stylish Edmontonians who did make it out to the Bamboo Ballroom on June 4 in our Hot Off the Streets pullout on page 27.

Though our fashion pullout features some stylish looks, the bicycle helmet **Andrew Paul** wore during his ridealong with the police bicycle unit was certainly not, as you can see in the

Front section. Also in the Front, columnist **Maurice Tougas** tweets about Twitter as he tries his hand at venting his soleen, 140 characters at a time.

In Music, Michael Hingston discovers that an exploding stomach isn't good for business when you're in a band on the verge of making it big, but you won't hear Japandroids bellyaching as they get back on track after an ulcer nearly killed Brian King.

Speaking of career rehabilitations, you can watch Mike Tyson talk about everything from rape charges to Don King in James Toback's documentary Tyson. For the scoop, check out Paul Matwychuk's lead review in the Film section. And in Arts, Kathleen Bell wings it with Keyin Gillese as she looks at this year's Improvaganza festival. Of course, in Edmonton, improv comedy is always in fashion.



FESTIVAL BLOG · Seemagazine.com · DISPATCHES FROM THE FESTIVAL FRONTLINES

2009 Mayor's Award winner Sustained Support Of The Arts

2009

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JUNE 2

QUEET ANNUAL
MAYOR'S PRIDE BRUNCH
Ben Henderson was sporting
the most badass yellow
shoes we've ever seen at this
year's Pride Parade, which
means Mandel has some
big — er, shoes to fill. Crowne
Plaza, Chateau Lacombe,
ll a.m.

party | EDMONTON

SCOTTISH HIGHLAND

GATHERING Kilts, haggis,

bagpipes - and maybe even

a little smuggled-in scotch.

Grant MacEwan Park, 9 a.m.

Canadian Carnage, Rexall Place, June 26

JUNE 22

Film | CANADIAN BIKE SHORTS Despite the name of this event, chances are the only spandex you'll see will be on the big screen as Metro Cinema provides you with 111 minutes of velo film. 7 p.m.

JUNE 29
bikeology | BIKEOLOGY SALON: MECHANICAL FASCINATIONS
DISCUSSION We're not
sure if they it be discussing
mechanics or merely their
fascination with mechanics.
Either way, why not pedal on
over 2 feeting 46F 7 nm.

tell you to drop a few tabs of LSD. Fortunately, the Westbury Theatre has a

JUNE 23

theatre | MUSICOF

THE NIGHT If you said you

wanted to watch characters

from Phantom of the Opera,

Jesus Christ Superstar, and

Evita all come to life we'd

better idea, 7:30 p.m.

JUNE30
theatre | FREEWILL
SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL
Forget free will: we're ordering you to show up for some
quality theatre at Heritage
Amphitheatre in Hawrelak
Park. 8 p.m.

JUNE24

MUSIC | JAPANDROIDS Japan may be the world's leading technological superpower, but we assure you that these two guys are flesh and blood ... and, come to think of it, not actually from Japan. Starlite Room, 8 p.m.

JULY

fireworks | CANADA DAY What would Canada's birthday be without fireworks? Alberta Legislature.

JULYZ

broadway | THE LION KING If we didn't like Broadway so much, we'd be pissed off that Jonathan Taylor Thomas isn't playing Simba in this production. Jubilee Auditorium, 8 p.m.

thursday

exhibit | ANNIAL

NAKED EXHIBITION We'd

never subject an artist to the

sight of our naked body, but

fortunately they still found

this exhibit of figure-based drawings, paintings, and sculpture. Harcourt House Gallery

MUSIC BOONSTOCK

If you've never been to Gib-

you. In fact the Boonstock

music festival is the only

reason we can think of to

on it! www.hoonstock.ca.

actually drive out there. Get

hors before we don't hlame

JUNE 25

enough volunteers to pull off

friday

IUNE 26

music | CANADIAN

CARNAGE With Slaver and

Megadeth in the lineup, this

show is going to be killer.

Man, we are so witty this

week! Rexall Place, 6 p.m.

arts | THE WORKS It's sort of the deluxe hot dog of the arts festival world: it's got a little bit of everything on it. www.theworks.ab.ca.

saturday

JUNE 20

CLANCE | THE LITTLE
MERMAID Unlike the Disney
version, we're pretty sure
there won't be a randy priest
running around on Horizon
Stage. 7 p.m.

JUNE 27

Charity | SkyDiVE FOR AFRICA Running and walking for charity is getting kind of old. Jumping out of a plane for charity, however, is not. Eden North Parachute Schools Inc., www.edennorth.com



broadway | July 2 IF WE DIDN'T LIKE BROADWAY SO MUCH, WE MIGHT BE PISSED OFF THAT JONATHAN TAYLOR THOMAS ISN'T PLAYING SIMBA IN THIS PRODUCTION.

see magazine's two-week forecast of events in edmonton

listings: the front pg14 | music pg34 | film caps pg41 | arts pg45



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FIRST PERSON - BIKE MONTH - BY ANDREW PAUL 11 508 words

Professional Party Poopers On Patrol

OUR INTREPID REPORTER (AND BICYCLING AMATEUR) GOES ON A TWO-WHEEL PATROL WITH THE POLICE CYCLE UNIT

The moment the monstrous F-350 barrels into the lane directly behind me, I know I have no business riding a bike in traffic, much less down Jasper Avenue during morning rush hour. Sure, I had spent a few moments Googling bicycle signals earlier that morning, but the fact of the matter is, I haven't been on a bike since childhood, and back then I wasn't allowed to ride past the stop sign at the end of the block.

But here I am, wheezing like an asthma patient with more adrenaline pumping through my veins than a PCP freak - especially when that redneck monstrosity of a truck follows me for six blocks until I turn right on 96th Street to make my way to the downtown police headquarters, where I have an appointment to go on a ride-along with Const. Murray Burke of the EPS cycling unit.

When I crawl off my bike, my legs instantly seize into two knots of angry muscle and I tell myself that after this crazy endeavour is over, I am going to drive to Ponoka and have myself committed for my own good.

As I sit in the lobby waiting for Burke, I become convinced that he and his partner, Const. Lisa Simonson, won't hesitate to screw with my tired mind and weak body by playing a sadistic game of "Let's Fuck With the Press." They would have plenty of chances to do it, too, as their patrol area for that day would put us in the hobo-ridden back alleys of Boyle Street and Chinatown. Visions of junkies stabbing me or my bike wiping out and landing me face-first into a pile of dirty needles dance through my head. Plus, there's the sad fact

that I would be trying to keep up with two poster children of fitness atop \$1,500 Cannondale bikes when I was riding a Frankensteined mutt bike that Michael Kalmanovitch of the Edmonton Bicycle Commuters Society was kind enough to piece together from the pile of dead bikes behind the EBC building just off Whyte Avenue

I'm contemplating the repercussions of backing out of the ordeal when Burke enters the lobby there's no turning back now.

"You'll have to sign your life away before we go out," he says as he slips me a waiver form.

I feel like I'm bent over a barrel as I try to recall what kind of health plan I have at SEE, but there isn't much time to think as a call comes over the radio: a suspect has been spotted driving a stolen car. I sign on the dotted line and we head out for the first bit of action of the day.

We ride up to a parking lot near 98th Street and 106th Avenue and find a cruiser and a paddy wagon already on the scene. A group of officers have two men bent over the hood of the cruiser in handcuffs while they search the interior of a Neon. Burke pokes his head inside the car and emerges with two knives, a syringe, and a container with a white substance in it. One of the men in cuffs claims the item is soap.

Fortunately for Burke and Simonson, the other officers will take care of processing the two men - a process which, depending on who they are, could take the rest of the day.

It's now time to carry on to Mary Burlie Park near Chinatown to check on the locals.

As we approach the park, my suspicion that the constables might try to screw with me begins to subside as we make small talk, and I discover



that "professional party pooper" would be an accurate job description for a member of the downtown cycle police force. "When the weather warms up, the booze comes out," Burke says as we cruise down a grassy hill into the park.

Drinking In The Park

The dozen or so people on the grass don't see us until we are right on top of them. As soon as one of the transients shouts, "Cops!" several bottles of liquor clink into jackets, into pockets, and under the graffiti-covered picnic tables.

"I thought we were allowed to drink in this park," a woman tells Burke as he lines up three bottles of discount beer and flips out his ticket book while Simonson performs a similar routine with a group on the other side of the park. "Isn't there an unwritten understanding in this park, officer? Everyone told me we were allowed to drink here."

Burke tries to suppress a smile, and I can only imagine the stupid excuses he must hear on a daily basis. He takes it all in stride, though, and informs the woman that he's positive drinking on public property is most certainly illegal.

Meanwhile, Simonson's group is getting vocal, and a an older man starts yelling, "What kind of country is this, you fascist?"

The racket puts me on edge, and in the air gives me fantasies of riding and start shooting for the chest cavpects with punctured lungs put up less of a fight.

Fortunately, I realized long ago that I suffer from an overactive imagination and smother those thoughts immediately.

The man continues to yell and a young man with him chimes in, "He's my dad, he's my dad."

I can't help but laugh as the scene degenerates into a drunken circus - even though, of course, it's no laughing matter. As Burke attempts to write up tickets, he keeps running to the other side of the park to make sure his partner is doing okay with the rowdies. Fortunately, they finally leave and Burke finishes writing the tickets

"We could easily write 10 liquor tickets each every day if it wasn't for all of the other hassles that come with it," Simonson says as Burke wraps up his paperwork.

"Yeah," Burke says. "What happens is we run these guys' names and a lot of them have outstanding warrants so we have to take them in and process them, which can take up an entire day."

I ask how many of the tickets they issue get paid, and they tell me that none of them will. "That's the trouble, and what's so frustrating," says Burke. "Sometimes it makes you wonder if it's even worth it. But look at this park: it's the businesses that hanging around."

the back alleys around 97th Street, where the constables stop every few minutes to wake up people passed

Eventually we make our way to a house on 96th Street, where two men are standing on a porch eating

oranges. There are two very nice bikes sitting on the lawn in front of them, and a warning bell goes off in Simonson's head.

"Hi guys, nice bikes. Whose are they?" she inquires

The younger of the two says that one of them belongs to him and the older one says he borrowed the other

"You see, that raises a red flag when you tell me you're borrowing a nice bike like that," Simonson says. "What's your name?"

The man with the borrowed bike says his name is Johnny and the constables radio in the bikes' serial numbers to see if they are stolen. The bikes come up clean, but it turns out that Johnny provided a fake name after they identify him by the tattoos he sports on his arms.

The Walk of Shame

Burke informs Johnny. He slaps on the cuffs and searches Johnny's Johnny's back pocket, Burke finds a scratch-and-win lottery ticket.

"Is this the lucky one?" Burke

I don't know if Johnny won the lottery, but it certainly wasn't his lucky day as he leads the way back quarters. "It's the walk of shame," Burke says, "except these guys don't

It strikes me that Simonson, not me, is the one who wound up getting rolls her eyes. "It's just part of the job," she says, and keeps pedalling.



Non-Statutory Public Hearing

Consideration of the Edmonton City Centre Airport Lands

City Council's Executive Committee is considering the possibilities and challenges associated with the current use of the Edmonton City Centre Airport Lands, its possible closure and redevelopment.

The City initiated a review of the Edmonton City Centre Airport lands in early 2008, and started impact assessments in late 2008. City Council directed its Executive Committee to hold a non-statutory public hearing for additional input following Administration's presentation of a report with assessments of several aspects of the airport land. The report—available by June 19 at www.edmonton.ca and presented June 24 - will include

- Lands impact assessment, including effects on land use and transportation, downtown, servicing and market feasibility;
- · Economic impact assessment:
- . Medevac impact assessment
- Historical impact assessment;
- . Legal analysis: and
- · Results of the public involvement program.

The non-statutory public hearing will take place at Executive Committee

Wednesday, June 24, 2009 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Council Chamber 2^{md} Floor City Hall, 1 Sir Winston Churchill Square

and, if required, Thursday, June 25, from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. and Friday, June 26, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in Council Chamber.

To speak at this hearing, please register in advance

- Online at www.edmonton.ca/meetings or
 By telephoning 780-496-8178
 In person at the Office of the City Clerk 3rd Floor City Hall
- You are requested to register in advance, however you may also register on the day of the meeting at Council Chamber, 2nd floor City Hall

u may view the Council meeting live at: tn://CouncilontheWeb.edmonton.ca - select Council Chamber

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NEWS BRIEFS

EDMONTON - FESTIVAL BIKEOLOGY BUILDS BRIDGES WITH BIKES

June is Bike Month, and on Saturday Edmonton's cycling community will converge on Beaver Hill Park for the annual Rikeology Festival

The festival, which is in its eighth year, is all about bringing the cycling community together, says Molly Turnbull, one of the festival organizers.

"We're descendants of chimpanzees." she says, "so we're used to hanging out in hordes, and we like it when other people are doing the same thing. So we created all kinds of events where people can come and gather and feel part of a community."

One major purpose of the festival is to build bridges between the often-insular groups of cyclists in the city. There are more than a half-dozen styles of cyclists in Edmonton alone, including commuters, trial riders, couriers, mountain bikers, road racers. and tourers

"Some of these people live in many of these worlds at once" says Turnhull, who notes that the common bond between the different camps is their love of the bicycle. That's where the festival comes into play, with a ton of events for cyclists of all skill levels and styles. From bike repair workshops to an eco-fair, there will be something for everybody - and the best part, as Turnbull notes, is that it's free.

ANDREW PALII

PARK TO CYCLE FROM EDMONTON TO CAPE SPEAR

Edmontonian Robert Park will hit the road on June 12 for a tour across the Prairie provinces and Eastern Canada where, depending on how things go, he'll end up in Cape Spear. Nfld., the easternmost point in Canada.

"There are a few parts that are looking kind of scary," he says, adding that he's especially concerned about some stretches of highway across the Canadian Shield with little or no shoulder. "I've spoken with people who've done it and they're like, 'Yeah, it's kind of shitty, but you just have to do it."

Fortunately, Park is no stranger to long tours. In 2008, he spent three weeks pedaling from Edmonton to Vancouver Island. where he discovered the value of an iPod full of aggressive music, and the importance of proper attire, or the lack thereof

"I pretty much ride as naked as I can possibly get," says Park with a laugh. "Clothing gets pretty clammy, so I like to air-dry as I'm riding and let the wind keep me cool."

The most important thing to remember when touring is to pay attention to your body, he says. On a 2007 trip to Jasper his bike wasn't adjusted right and injured his knee. You can't just ride though the pain, he says.

For his eastern tour, Park will be carrying four panniers, storage bags lashed to his tools, warm clothing, and a three-day supply of food. At an average of 66 kilometres a day, Park estimates he'll spend three months riding and probably an extra month detouring — especially if he pays a visit to Niagara Falls, or rides the Gaspé Peninsula,



ss For A Night Fundraiser | (I-r) Parn McDonald, Laura Adeney, Alycia Clarke, Jared Millar PHOTO BY JESSICA POTTER

an excursion that will add an extra 600 kilometres to the Quebec leg of his journey.

As for missing this weekend's Bikeology festival, Park sends his regrets, but he'll still be showing his velo-love somewhere in Saskatchewan at the time.

ANDREW PAUL

EDMONTON - STREET YOUTH HOMELESS FOR A NIGHT RAISES MORE THAN \$110,000

It was the opportunity to prove that not all teenagers are hoodlums that brought 18-year-old Megan Shoemaker and a group of friends to Telus Field last Friday to sleen under the stars. "Many people have this negative attitude about kids, street kids," she says. "It's the total opposite of reality. They're not there because they want to be there."

For eight years, kids, teens, and adults have gone "Homeless for a Night" to raise funds for the Youth Emergency Shelter Society (Y.E.S.S.), a nonprofit agency that gives at-risk youth support, encouragement, and sometimes just a safe place to sleep.

While it might not wholly represent the reality of sleeping on the streets, more than 300 participants hauled tents, sleeping bags, soccer balls, and badminton racquets and camped out on the baseball greens. This year was a record-breaker, with more than 100 new campers.

Sleeping accommodations depend on the amount of funds raised; top spot earns you a bed in the "shelters" set up around the perimeter. One shelter denizen, Charlene Butler, has participated for six years. Butler and her team of 18 MBA students from the University of Alberta raised a minimum of \$400 each. Individually, Butler raised \$3,700. "The event has grown a lot," says Butler. "I hope it grows even more next year."

Lori-Ann Bourdeau has camped out for three years. She does it for reasons that hit close to home. "I have a stepson who preferred the streets to our home," she says. "He's now 19 and doing well, but it was good to know that [Y.E.S.S.] was available to him at that time." This year, both Bourdeau and Doyle were especially happy to see the large number of youth camping out. "Look at all the young kids out on a Friday night," said Doyle. "There are so many compassionate klds in here. It impresses me.

This year's Homeless for a Night raised over \$110,000.

JESSICA POTTER

EDMONTON - ECO CONFERENCE CITIES THE "SOURCE OF SOLUTIONS" AT

The Shaw Conference Centre was buzzing with as many different languages as there were seats in the halls as delegates from across the world came together to share ideas and brainstorm solutions to the ever-growing issues associated with urban sustainability. But as the global village converged on Edmonton this past week during the 2009 ICLEI Congress, a message of urgency accompanied each presentation and workshop.

The 628 delegates from 57 countries were on a common page: humankind must change the way it consumes natural resources and seek out solutions for sustainable, healthy urban life. But most importantly, ICLEI president David Cadmen argued, we have to push the file forward, reinvigorate commitments to climate change mitigation and make local action the priority.

"We have to walk gently on this earth." Cadmen told delegates at the opening ceremony. "Cities have to be a part of the dialogue ... urban centres are the source of the problem and therefore the source of solutions."

For five days, environmentalists, politirians nolicymakers citizens and researchers shared environmental protection and sustainability initiatives, focusing on action at the municipal level. By hosting the seventh world congress, Edmonton had an opportunity to showcase some of its eco-forward programs and urban design concepts, while at the same time learn from some of the best in the world.

With the goal of hosting a net-zero event, the organizing committee exchanged paper handouts for USB drives pre-loaded with presentation materials. Local produce and meats were served throughout the week and reusable fabric tote bags and stainless steel water canisters replaced the usual conference fare of plastic bottles and plastic

All organic waste will be composted. including the paper towels from the bath-

The ICLEI Congress, founded in 1990, is held every three years. It has since grown from an initial membership of 200 local governments to more than 1,100. Members are found in 67 countries and represent 400 million citizens.

An Exercise In Twitter Economy



OUTSIDE POLITICS MAURICE TOUGAS MAURICE OFFERS UP A RANDOM INSTALMENT OF **OUTSIDE POLITICS, IN 140-WORD BITE-SIZED TWEETS**

There is much ado these days about Twitter, the greatest form of communication since man first attached a piece of string to a couple of tin

Twitter, for those of you unfamiliar with it (that would be you, dad) is a form of instant communication between friends and followers. The hook is that a Twitter entry (known as a tweet) by a Twitter user (known as a twit, at least by me) is limited to 140 characters. It's like Facebook for people with ADD.

It's crazy popular, at least with some. Statistics show that 90 per cent of all Tweets twittered are posted by just 10 per cent of Twits. In other

stray thought that comes to mind and/or the excruciating minutiae of their daily lives. I'm on Twitter, although not much of a contributor. I get paid to write, so just giving away my thoughts is like a plumber going door-to-door fixing leaks. However, it is a good mental exercise. I'm kinda wordy as a writer. I like sentences that ramble on a bit, sometimes going off on verbal side roads that are littered with commas, the occasional semior full colon and - my favourite dashes. (I also like parentheses.) But Tweets are lean, with little room for grammatical gamesmanship. Proper spelling and grammar are optional. So, this week, as a way of sharpening my writing skills. I offer up my first column of random Tweets on events of the past week. They all pass the 140-character standard, although you are welcome to count them if

you don't believe me. · Seriously, RCMP? A "stunting" ticket to Dan, the dancing dude? Are you trying to make people ridicule your once-proud organization?

· Maybe "Dancing Dan" got off lightly. The last guy who acted out in public got Tasered in the Vancouver

you say something stupid, apologize

does your staff hiring for you, Inspector Clouseau?

· After watching QP from Ottawa, it's clear nobody feigns outrage better than the spousal team of NDPers Jack Layton and Olivia Chow

industry justify even hinting at a 40% hike in premiums? Based on what a whim?

· CTV Edm ran two promos and 3. min. segment in first 20 minutes on Chastity Bono sex change on noon Friday. Save (us from) local TV.

· Saw lady near WEM Saturday wearing a full air filter mask. Either has terrible allergies, or morbid fear of H1N1. Either way, sad.

· Discover that weed-n-feed no longer available. If that's the way you want it, fine. Lawn now 85% dandelions, 10% grass, 5% other.

· Worst use of television technology ever? I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here. Philo T. Farnsworth must be spinning in his grave.

· Most questionable use of the

rity. Get Me Out of Here. Who are these people?

· Penguins win the Stanley Cup! Penguins win the Stanley Cup! I

· No rioting reported in Pittsburgh after Penguins Stanley Cup victory Huh, and they call themselves hock-

· Pittsburgh has Stanley Cup and Super Bowl wins in same year. Time for Edmonton to officially retire "City of Champions" claim.

of NHL season and start of CFL season. I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here suddenly looks not so bad.

· I am # 53-year-old adult male Shouldn't I be past the stage of enjoying Kool-Aid on a hot day?

· Revered spiritual leader Aga Khan

A. Wouldn't Aga Khan be a great · Refuse to see Pelham 1 2 3 re-

make, cause original is a personal favourite. Also refuse to pay \$12 for

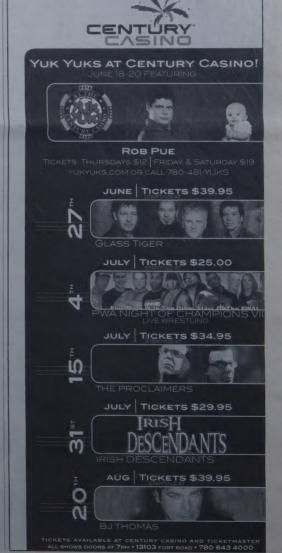
· Larry the Cable Guy coming to be sometime between 9 p.m. and

· Far right a-holes Rush Limbaugh & Ann Coulter to speak in Calgary to raise money for lobby group. Is Calgary even part of Canada anymore?

Maurice Tougas is the former Liberal MI A for Edmonton-Meadowlark

mauricetougas@live.com





COMMENTARY - PRIDE 1947 words

Out Of Our Cars, And Into The Streets



MY TOWN SCOTT LINGLEY

THIS WEEKEND'S EVENTS SHOWCASED A TOWN FULL OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURE. IF ONLY IT WERE ALWAYS SO

I felt no shortage of pride in our fair town this weekend, pride of a distinctly Edmontonian stripe – pride tempered with suspicion, distaste, and not a little self-loathing. In the bright sunshine!

Mayhap some of you were among the 10,000 or so people who lined Jasper Avenue — well, one side of it — to take in this year's Pride Parade. The fine folks from The Empress invited me aboard their Queer Bus, but I demurred. I'd much rather be on the sidewalk for the parade, because that's where things have changed in the past few years as people from all walks of life, including loads of families, turn out to avouch that their idea of community has enough room for everyone.

There were twice as many people trying to cram into Sir Winston Churchill Square, the pitlessly shadless destination of Saturday's colourful procession, as last year. And with more people come more politicians – even a couple of hapless Progressive Conservatives who must have drawn short straws to wind up the token Tories riding down a street lined with homo-philic well-wishers the week after Bill 44 passed.

Despite a little booing, everyone I spoke with seemed to have a pretty good time, particularly those who arrived early at the beer gardens, which instantly sprouted a kilometre-long lineup in the glaring mid-afternoon heat. The first of many beer gardens this festival season, I thought as I turned my sweaty back on the rainbow throng and headed south. Even hours later, I was still crossing the path of people wearing the shiny beads that were draped on everyone who attended the Age of Aqueerius.

The next order of the day was some kind of crazy block party taking place on 104th Street. I found the thematic point of it a little elusive, but it did culminate in a outdoor screening of Stanley Tucci's wonderful Big Night, one of the best movies about food ever, and prob-

ably the only movie aside from The Jungle Book that actually deserves to have Louis Prima on the soundtrack. There was a fashion show, which included poet laureate Roland Pemberton in basketball togs, and Portuguese food and the requisite unwelcome AM radio tent blasting oldies, just in case we weren't sure whether we were having a good time. Fourth Street has recently welcomed back the Saturday farmers market and some of the vendors hung around through the day to take care of any lingering need for spiced peanuts or handmade stuffed animals.

The sight of a movie audience in lawnchairs munching popcorn on a downtown street as the last colour drained from the sky made me wish that Edmonton was that kind of place every night of the summer, where local culture is something that bursts through the doors of boutiques, galleries, and bars to take place on the street and people actually get out of their cars to enjoy their city together. Of course there were crassly consumerist dimensions to the occasion, and I can't foresee a time where I'll enjoy having "Born to Be Wild" blasted at me while I try to order a drink, but some of you Edmontonians sure are

What a treat to awake the next day and find the weather even hotter and more unsettled than the day before, especially with the spectacle of Trevor Anderson's That's Edmonton for You! awaiting in the bandshell of Louise McKinney Park, another pitilessly shadeless venue staked out on the hillside above the river. Finding myself with a flat tire, I borrowed a friend's bike to get down there. At first, I balked slightly at the girly conveyance with its triple padded seat the size of a La-Z-Boy and the drooping crossbar designed to prevent inadvertent defloration of young cyclists, but applying what I had learned about the fluidity of gender concepts the previous day, I accepted my own femininity and arrived in style just as the show was about to begin.

Filmmaker/musician/impresario Anderson has always been an idea man of the first water, but it's really the unique conviction with which he says, "Well, why the hell not?" that has given him such a profile in town. In case you somehow managed to avoid all the media coverage his event garnered, Trevor got a commission from the Edmonton Arts Council to compose original music about Edmonton and sustainability, so, as he wryly noted from the stage,

he pulled a Tom Sawyer and hired 12 friends who just happened to be the cream of Edmonton's indie music scene to do it for him. He then strung the songs together with witty banter and pithy vignettes of life in Dirt City, conjured a flawless summer's day, and invited us all to come watch it for free. Kudos, Mr. Anderson, for invitting us into your playful anything-goes realm, and kudos for insuring there were not one but two gongs onstage for the performance.

The show moved toward its conclusion in a distinctively Edmontonian way when The Get Down's Ted Wright led the band through his hard-charging "We Are Mountains," knocking out the front-end amplification in the process. Even at stage volume, the guitars, gang vocals, and duelling drums thundered through the crowd and on down the river valley, carrying Wright's message of environmental pride toward Gretzky Drive. Who knows, maybe Anderson scripted that too.

Could it be the most miserable spring in recent memory is truly behind us and we're ready as a city to meet in public, bask in the heat and turn this so-far-wretched year around? In fear of jinxing it, I'm not saying another word.





Northern Alberta Jubilee Auditorium Edmonton November 16 & 17

Opening performance by Jenn Beaupre

Advance tickets sales available now For tickets call: 780-451-8000 or www.ticketmaster.ca









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OUR COMMENT ON THIS WEEK'S NEWS

EDMONTON - DEVELOPMENT DON'T LET NIMBYS DERAIL EDMONTON'S FUTURE

Even as the city takes a step forward with continued LRT expansion, a few Not In My Backyard groups seem determined to keep Edmonton a sprawling, inefficient, autobound city

Some folks in Belgravia are opposed to a new five-storey development near the new McKernan/Belgravia LRT station. Not all, but some, and the thought makes us despair.

The city just made a huge investment in that neighbourhood by providing public transit, and Edmonton can't allow one group to derail a vision of Edmonton's future that includes sustainable, walkable, highdensity neighbourhoods.

That's not to say developers should get carte blanche for development. Community groups should be consulted in a meaningful way. Indeed, this process can ensure that developers offer a higher quality product, which, let's face it, Edmonton sorely needs.

But we're talking about a relatively small five-storey building, not the four 20-odd storey apartments that were proposed for the controversial Stratheam project.

While one or two individual projects don't make a difference, the cumulative impact does. By building up rather than out, we are giving over our precious farmland for sprawiing, tacky subdivisions, gas stations, and power centres. That means higher grocery bills when oil spikes again, and maybe even food shortages if we can no longer import our tornatoes from Mexico.

And even though rental vacancies have increased slightly, Edmonton's population is still growing, to the tune of 30,000 people from 2008 to 2009, to the current population of 782,439. But the idea that people might actually need that housing never seems to enter into the NIMBY mindset.

How can Edmonton become a real city - the world-class kind of city that we are al-

ways longing to be - without highrises near public transit? That's how big cities manage their big populations. Lower-income housing necessarily abuts mansions in other big cities; why does Edmonton think it's going to be any different?

And it's not all about the overall needs of the city. The more condensed living arrangements offered by condo and apartment buildings are just what the residents of Belgravia are going to need when they reach their golden years. Actually, some residents might ask their parents to relocate to buildings in the area so that they can take better care of them in their declining years. And nearby public transit is essential for seniors unable to drive.

Before any resident throws a fit over a five-storey building, we humbly ask them to seriously consider the benefits, for themselves and the city, before they jump on the NIMBY bandwagon.

BY THE NUMBERS

MORE PEOPLE, MORE PROBLEMS EDMONTON POPULATION GROWTH, BY YEAR SOURCE: CITY OF EDMONTON

1909 23,000 (ESTIMATED) 1959

LIFE - DRINKING 1903 words

A Thirst-Quencher For The Masses



ROOZEMUSE MELISSAPRIESTEEY
BEER HAS TAKEN A LONG
JOURNEY FROM THE EGYPTIAN
PYRAMIDS TO YOUR DORM
ROOM MINI-FRIDGE

As an homage to the recently-arrived patio season, not to mention this weekend's Edmonton Beer Festival, let's take a journey through the history of North American beer production. Grab a pint and take note: this stuff will win you brownie points at your company barbecue; plus, a sound knowledge of beerology will help justify your consumption.

Beer is one of the world's oldest alcoholic beverages, dating back to the sixth millennium B.C. There are written records of brewing in ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, and Sumeria. The earliest archaeological evidence dates back to the Neolithic period, around 3,500 B.C. The rise of brewing walked hand in hand with the advent of agriculture – there's a reason it's called "liquid bread," and not just because it's made out of the

same thing. As soon as early civilizations started cultivating cereal cropsthey saw spontaneous fermentation due to wild yeast, paving the way for intentional brewing.

In ancient Egypt, over was more important than wine. Only the wealthy segments of the population could afford wine, so the majority of the people drank beer I'm sure beer was far more thirst quenching after a day of pyramid-building, anyways. Some people have had the chance to experience these ancient Egyptian beers for themselves. In 1990, ar-

one of the mainstays of European civilization during the Middle Ages. especially in England. and other northern regions. Because the beer was often safer than the local water supply, beer was usually consumed with every meal. By the late 1400s, the annual per capita consumption of beer in England was around 300 litres.

During this time period, brewing became a primary occupation of the monastic orders. The monks' experiments led to several advances, including the advent of better storstate that they proudly uphold the Bayanan Purity Law, and splash the fact all over their labels), though this is now more of a marketing tool. The law was necessary at its time of inception because the monks were adding a whole array of nefarious substances to been including soot and fly again mushrooms [i.e., hall turnogenic mushrooms – though I turnogenic mushrooms – though I suppose some people today wouldn't complain about that side effect).

In the following centuries brewing remained largely in the hands of fome brewers and monks, until the lier preference of heavy, dark, malty brews to light, pale, hoppy beers. Furthermore, the industry has become dominated by a rew enormous multinational corporations, although you can still find plenty of craft and microbrewenes out there if you do a bit of searching I wont get into any comprehensive discussion of globalization, suffice it to say that it has placed beers from around the world on our store shewes allowing anyone with an inding of interest to sample almost anything they desire – though there is certainly a degree of homogeneity that springs from this development as well. Nonetheless, the world of beer is large and varied, and here in Alberta we are happily situated in a position to enjoy all manner of wonderful brews.

To get a jump on this year's beerdrinking season, check out the 2009 edition of Edmontton's Festival of Beer at the Mayfield Inn and Suites Trade Centre (16615-109th Ave.) on Fri., June 19 and Sat., June 20

This two day event will feature more than 100 different beers to sample, as well as booths for single mall scotch and value wines under \$20 Some food and live jazz will round out the evening Doors open at 4 p.m both days; tickets are \$15 in advance from Ticketmaster, or \$20

MONKS WERE ADDING A WHOLE AFRAY OF MUTARCOUS SUBSTANCES TO A TERMINGLUDING SOOT AND FLY AGARIC MUSHROLMS (I.E., HALLOCUMBERIC MUSSEC MS)

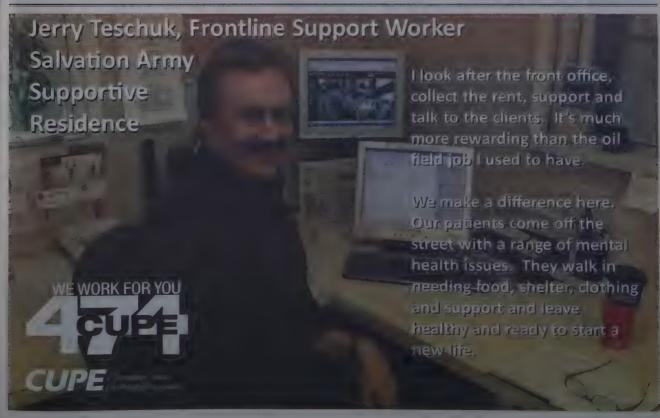
chaeologists from Cambridge University uncovered an ancient kitchen and brewing rooms in the Sun Temple of Queen Nefertiti, a relation of King Tut. Working together with Newcastle Brewery, they used excavated grains to produce 1,000 bottles of "Tutankhamun Ale" using the techniques described in hieroglyphics on several recipe tablets. The first bottle of this brew sold for a whopping \$7,686 and holds the record for the world's most expensive single bottle of beer — though the other 999 all went for \$76 apiece. Beer was

age techniques, the emergence of regional styles, and the use of hops as a preservative and to make the beers more refreshing – hops give beer that bitter edge present in all its modern incarnations

The establishment of the Bavarian Purity Law of 1516, which states that only barley, hops, and pure water may be used to make beer, was a huge milestone in brewing history as it ensured beer quality. While initially only enforced in Bavaria, the law was later adopted by other nations as well. Even today, some breweries

industrial Revolution started in the 18th century and brewing became industrialized Several scientific advances including the invention of the hydrometer (to determine the yields from different malts) and the role of yeast in fermentation, allowed brewers to refine their products.

The 20th century saw breweries expand throughout North America Advertising became a ubiquitous and pervasive force in the beer industry and has definitely shaped succeeding generations of beer drinkers. Tastes have shifted from the ear-



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THE ALBERTA CANCER FOUNDATION: UNDERWEAR AFFAIR BUTTERDOME. 115 ST. AND 89 AVE., JUN 20 10K run = 5K walk that support the Alberta Cancer Foundation, Info.

ANNUAL INTER-COMMUNITY DINNER MAHARAJA BANDUET HALL, 9257-34A AVE., JUN 19 Presented by World

ARTS MARKET CARROT COMMUNITY ARTS COFFEE HOUSE 9351-118 AVE. Artists and artisans from the community and beyond, sharing unique gifts with local flavour. Every Sat.

AVENUE & ALLEYS BOWLING FUNDRAISER PLAZA BIKEOLOGY FESTIVAL DAY BEAVER HILLS HOUSE PARK. JASPER AVE. & 105 ST., JUN 20 Includes music ero fair quizzes and prizes and more. Doors at 17 n.m. Info: www.

CHANGING THE WORLD: A MULTI-FAITH CONVERSA-TION FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, 10810-100 AVE., JUN 23 Guest speaker Lyle Young, Info: 477-4754

EDMONTON GHOST TOURS WALTERDALE PLAYHOUSE. 10322-83 AVE. Meet in front of the Rescuer statue next ■ the Walterdale playhouse. Tickets: \$5 Mon-Thu at 9 nm. June 22 until August 20. Info: www.edmontonghosttours.

SUFFES, 16615-109 AVE., JUN 19-20 Variety III food and drinks and local entertainment Doors at 4 p.m. Tickets: \$15 in

FATHER'S DAY SHOW AND SHINE CHURCH ON 99TH, 9908-67 AVE., JUN 21 BBQ and Car Show. Doors at 10 a.m.
FREE FAMILY ART NIGHTS NINA HAGGERTY CENTRE. 9704-111 AVE. For Parents and children up to 17. Every Thu.

NATIONAL ABORIGNAL FESTIVAL TIMMS CENTRE FOR THE ARTS, 87TH AVE. & 112TH ST., TO JUN 22 Week long event focusing on Aboriginal culture and traditions. Info: www.

NEW APPROACHES TO DESIGN AND PLANNING DELTA Presentations on community design, Doors at 7 p.m Info:

NEXTFEST VARIOUS LOCATIONS, TO JUN 21 Eleven days, more than 15 venues across Edmonton featuring theatre, dance, film, visual art and music, info: www.nextfest.ca. NOBODY IS AN ISLAND HEALTHWORKS, 10303-65 AVE JUN 20 Health and wellness workshop focusing on self destructive habits and making changes. Doors at 10 a.m.

RESILIENT CITIES: RESPONDING TO THE CRASH,
CLIMATE CHANGE, AND PEAK OIL SHAW CONFERENCE CENTRE, 9797 JASPER AVE., JUN 18 Peter Newman speaks

SAFEWAY FATHER'S DAY WALK/RUN LAURIER PARK, 13221 BUENA VISTA RD., JUN 21 Supporting research into SUMMER SOLSTICE FESTIVAL CONVOCATION HALL

Presented by the Edmonton Chamber Music Society and features ten chamber musicians from across North America

SWING DANCE AT SUGAR FOOT STOMP ORANGE HALL. 10335-84 AVE. Beginner lessons followed by dance. Every Sat. Doors at 8 p.m.

OUEER
ANNUAL MAYOR'S PRIDE BRUNCH CROWN PLAZA —
CHATEAU LACOMBE, 10111 BELLAMY HILL, JUN 21 DOORS at 11

BISEXUAL WOMEN'S COFFEE GROUP VARIOUS LOCATIONS. VENUES CHANGE MONTHLY A Social group for bi-curious and bisexual women. Every 2nd Tue of the month

Doors # 8:00 p.m. Info: http://groups.vahoo.com/group/ ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB: CROSSDRESSERS MEETING VARIOUS LOCATIONS, VENUES CHANGE MONTHLY Meets

nonthly Info: 387-3343 MELLOW YELLOW SUBMARINE YOUTH DANCE PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE., JUN 19 Doors III 3 p.m. Tickets: \$5 at

door, Info: www.pridecentreofedmonton.org.

MEN TALKING WITH PRIDE PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE A social discussion group for gay, bisexual and transger dered men to discuss current issues and to offer support to each other. Every Sun. Doors at 7 p.m. Info: robwells780@

PFLAG PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays: A support group for family members and friends of GLBT people. An excellent resource for people whose family members and friends have just come out. First Wed of month. Doors at 7 p.m. Info: edmontonab@

PICNIC IN THE PARK: BUDDYS BASEBALL CHALLENGE VICTORIA PARK, 12130 RIVER VALLEY ROAD, JUN 20 DOORS III

PRIDE CELEBRATION DANCE ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH, 11526-76 AVE., JUN 20 Superheroes theme. Doors at 8 p.m.

PRIDE AT THE POOL OF IVER OUTDOOR POOL 10315-110 ST., JUN 20 Doors at 12 p.m. Info: www.teamedmonton.ca.
RAINBOW MADNESS ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM, 12845-102 AVE., JUN 19 Doors at 8 n.m. Tickets: \$15 at door, Info: www.

SENIORS DROP-IN PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. A social actions under the representation of all genders and sexport group for seniors of all genders and sexpatities to talk have tea and offer each other support. Every Tue and Thu. Doors at 1 p.m. Info: tuff@shaw.ca.

SENIORS STRAWBERRY TEA PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-TII

AVE., IJIN 18 For LBGTQ persons over 60. Admission by dona-tion. Info: Jeff@pridecentreofedmonton.org. TESG PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Transgender Education

and Support Group: Education and support for transgender, transsexual and questioning people in any stage of transi-tion. Second Tue of month. Doors at 7:30 p.m. Info: admin@ pridecentreofedmonton.org.

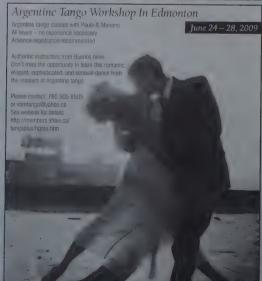
TTIQ PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. A mixed gender open.

support group addressing the needs of transsexual and transgendered individuals. First and third Sun of month. WOMONSPACE BOARD MEETING PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-III AVE. A social and recreational society run by volunteers to provide opportunities for lesbians to interact and support

WRITTEN III THE STARS: GAY EDMONTON PAGEANT

YOUTH MOVIE PRIDE CENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. Movie chosen by youth (aged 14 – 25), usually with LGBT themesDoors at 6:30 n m Info: byendan@hnidecentranformynton cyn

YOUTH UNDERSTANDING YOUTH PRIDE (ENTRE, 9540-111 AVE. A place where LGBTQ youth under 25 can gather to have fun and learn about themselves and others in a safe. supportive, and caring environment. Doors at 7 p.m. Info:



MUSIC PREVIEW - MEDICAL EMERGENCIES! - BY MICHAEL HINGSTON | 641 words

Their Career Has Exploded — And So Has Their Stomach

JAPANDROIDS GOT A CAREER-MAKING REVIEW FROM PITCHFORK ... ONLY TO HAVE AN ULCER NEARLY KILL THEM

IAPANDROIDS

w/ No Gold and The Mitts. Starlite Room (10030–102 St). Wed, Jun 24 (9pm). Tickets available through Ticketmaster, Blackbyrd, Listen, Megatunes.

Brian King has spent a lot of time lately talking about the limitations of the Vancouver music scene – indifferent city politicians and a lack of decent venues have inspired the nickname "No Fun City" – but tonight is different. It's the weekend of the annual Music Waste Festival, an eclectic, independent showcase of the city's various talents. King's band Japandroids has played the festival every year since it formed in 2006, though this year other things have been keeping him busier than usual.

"I really wanted to go to one of the shows last night," he says over the phone, "and I spent the whole night working on a FACTOR [Foundation to Assist Canadian Talent on Records] grant. The perils of being in a band ..."

He's being modest. True, many bands have to worry about things like booking shows and organizing merchandise and applying for funding. But most don't have Japandroids' particular obligations — planning their first massive North American tour, say, or finalizing the international release of their critically acclaimed debut LP, as King (guitars, vocals) and bandmate David Prowse (drums, vocals) are doing for the riotous and completely awesome Post-

Nothing

Rewind even six months, however, and they were just another band entrenched in the local scene, struggling to gain exposure.

"We were so sure we were self-releasing this newest record that I'd actually sent it off to get pressed," King says. "When Unfamiliar [Records] got in touch with us and said, 'We want to press your record'—as stupid as it sounds—I literally had to phone them and say, 'Stop the presses! Somebody else is going to pay for it."

That was just the beginning of a truly remarkable run of good fortune. In March, indie kingmakers Pitchfork Media got hold of "Young Hearts Spark Fire," # blistering, distortion-soaked track from the forthcoming album, and posted it to their site along with a gushing blurb. When Post-Nothing proper was released in late April, Pitchfork gave them another rave review, naming the album one of the year's best. It's the kind of review entire careers have been launched from.

But then, after the very first show in what was meant to be their break through tour, King woke up in Calgary in so much pain that he couldn't move. Prowse rushed him to the hospital, and within two hours King was being prepped for emergency surgery. He was diagnosed with a perforated ulcer, "which," he says, "essentially meant that my stomach exploded - there was a big hole in it." In a chilling way, his good luck continued: the day before, King and Prowse had driven straight from Vancouver to Calgary. Had he been on a barren stretch of highway when



Flame On 1 | Japandroids resort to drastic measures MI combat the cold temperatures in their rehearsal space. PHOTO COURTESY OF 23DPUBLICE

it happened, hours from a hospital, he wouldn't have survived.

Now, six weeks of recovery and one impressive scar later, King and Prowse are ready to try it all again. They've just signed an international deal with Polyvinyl Records, and the snowballing online buzz is sure to bring out droves of new fans to their shows.

So do they feel any pressure to live

up to expectations? Nah - or not yet, anyway.

"It wasn't like Pitchfork said, 'This band has a great single -- they're going to be a great band,' and now we have to take that pressure into the studio and produce something that lives up to that expectation." he says. 'That'd be hard to do. But our record was already done. Everything we've ever recorded and released

was all done prior to this notoriety. So we never had to second-guess our sound. As far as we knew, maybe a few hundred people would ever hear this record.

"I'm sure if you ask me this question in a year," he adds with a chuckle, "when we're recording our second record, I'm sure I'll be considerably more concerned about this whole process."

Seeing The Light | The Blind Boys of Alabama have been giving Ray Charles a run for his money since 1939. PHOTO BY SHANNON

HOT TICKETS · MUST-SEE SHOWS

EXCELLENCE!

Blind Boys of Alabama
Jubilee Auditorium - June 19

\$57 | Ticketmaster

The Alabama Institute for the Negro Blind isn't the first place that comes to mind when one thinks of music, but it was the incubator for one of gospel's greatest groups ever. Even at the age of 78, Jimmy Carter is still producing Grammy Award-winning work with this year's Down in New Orleans, not to mention the four consecutive Grammys he took home between 2002 and 2005. And for extra cool points, they sang the theme song for the first season of The Wire. We just hope we can still walk when we're 78.

Jenn Grant
Haven Social Club - June 24
\$15 | Ticketmaster

Jenn Grant was shooting for the stars with her debut album Orchestra for the Moon, and this Halifax-based singer's sophomore album Echoes suggests her potential is as limitless as the universe. Okay, that's probably enough astronomy puns; what can we do with Echoes? Himmim, Well, it wouldn't be exaggerating to say that its success has definitely resonated across North America. If you bring your instrument to The Haven, you might be able to get in on the Wednesday night jam with Grant herself after the show.

ECTOPLASM!

Ladyhawk

Pawn Shop - June 23

\$12 | Ticketmaster

We're not sure what to think about this Vancouver quartet's fascination with ectoplasm (check out their blog at theeyeofladyhawk. blogspot.com). but whether they're trying to conjure the dead or experimenting with new methods of producing music, we'll hold off on passing any premature judgments as long as they continue to play some of the best and booziest indie rock this side of the Pacific — their third album Shots was birthed in a sangria-fuelled recording session in an old barn in Kelowna. We'll drink to that. MUSIC PREVIEW - KING OF THE HAMMOND 8-3 - BY TOM MURRAY 17/8 words

From "Green Onions" To Potato Hole



Jones Addiction | It's hard not ill gush when you re talking to Booker 1. Jones. PHOTO BY GARY COPFLAND.

WHENEVER SOUL LEGEND BOOKER T. JONES SITS DOWN AT THE KEYBOARD, THE RESULTS ARE ALWAYS TASTY

BOOKER T.

w/ Randy Bachman and Burton Cummings. Rexall Place. Tue, June 23. Tickets available through Ticketmaster (451-8000/ticketmaster.com).

It's pretty tough not to let musical history overwhelm you when talking to Booker T. Jones.

It's not just the way he connects five decades' worth of rock, country,

and soul; it's that the word "history" implies that the man is an artifact — something he clearly isn't. We could topload this article with three or four crammed paragraphs detailing his production work (Willie Neison's Stardust), sideman duties (Neil Young, Stephen Stills, Ray Charles, Rancid), and songwriting ("Green Onions" with the M.G.'s, "I Love You More Than Words Can Say" for Otis Redding), but that's all history — incredible history, but not the immediate point of the interview, which is about the man's latest allows.

Hole, just released on Anti

Still, even the most respectful of interviewers can't help but fall into serious hero worship when a casually dropped name – be it his old M.G.'s drummer Al, Jackson, Jr., or fellow Stax employees Isaac Hayes and David Porter – ignites a sudden blurting of fanboy questioning.

The kicker? Like the rest of us, he knows how special his days at Stax/Volt Records with Jackson and the M.G.'s were, and he'll talk about them for hours with little prodding.

"Al Jackson was magical – he'd record with us all day and then go across to Hi Records and work with Al Green." he remnisces. "What a drummer – he was just a phenomenal player, and always perfectly in the pocket."

Okay, okay — let's rein this in. While Booker is effusive in his praise of anyone connected with that particular time and place, he's certainly not stuck in it, and his recent renaissance is testament to the fact that younger musicians are well aware of that fact

The wonderful thing about being Booker T. is that just about anyone he picks up to play with him — whether they're the members of Drive By Truckers, who served as his backing

band on Potato Hole, or the various musicians in the Booker T Jones band that will be opening for Randy Bachman and Burton Cummings on their current tour — is that they're all schooled in the way that the M.G.'s played.

"These guys all know what they're doing," he says. "It really hasn't been any difficulty for me at all, because it's like they've got that sound built into them — with a dash of other things, like with the southern rock you can hear in the Drive By Truckers."

Already a favourite among producers for their uncanny ability to nail exactly the right musical mood for '60s soul survivors - especially on Bettye LaVette's 2007 comeback The Scene of the Crime - Drive By Truckers are perfect foils for Booker T's updated sound, which still pivots on his Hammond B-3, but is louder, looser, even wild at points. With Neil Young guesting throughout, and Booker choosing some unexpected and perfectly realized covers (Outkast's "Hey Ya," Tom Waits' "Get Behind the Mule"), Potato Hole destroys any notion of the 64-yearold engaging in a pallid exercise in nostalgia.

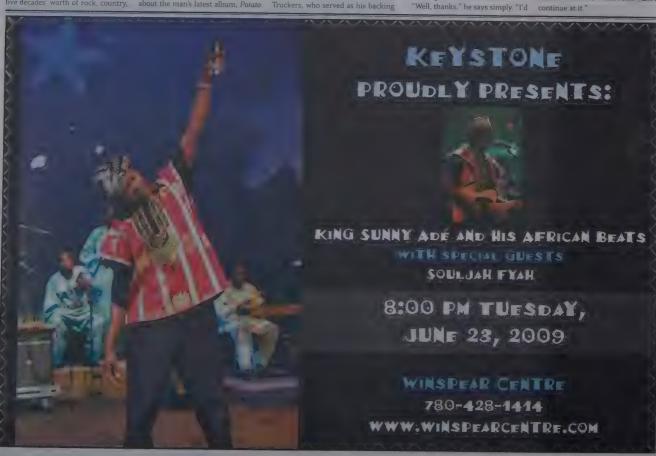
been waiting for quite a while to do this, and do it right. The guys in the band were really the only choice to do it."

Were they a little intimidated by his presence while in the studio?

"At first," he admits. "But you have to remember that [Truckers frontman Patterson Hood's] dad was [a musician] at Muscle Shoals [where many Atlantic Records releases were recorded] — so he's familiar with that seene. I tried to make them relax, and really, they're professionals, so in the end they simply got into the music and it came together."

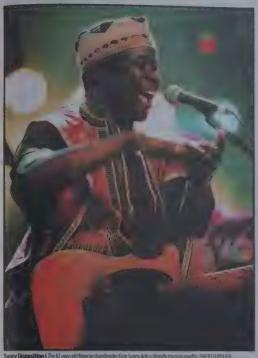
And now Booker is back on the road, a part of his trade that he surprisingly hasn't done as much of as others of his generation.

"That's right," he says. "We mostly just worked in the studio back at Stax. The only real tour we did was in Norway, and it was fantastic. It was only after I broke away that I did anything like that. I was raised in the Stax way, which might have stopped me from playing live, but allowed me to work on songwriting and producing. From the time [songwriter Dave Porter] came to get me out of the lith Grade, I knew I wanted to do this — and I still want-to continue at it."



MUSIC PREVIEW . JUJU - BY TOM MURRAY 1547 words

What A Difference Adé Makes



ONLY IN THE DEALM OF **ACTIVIST/MUSICIAN KING** SUNNY ADÉ WOULD FOUR ALBUMS IN ID YEARS BE CONSIDERED A "SLOWDOWN"

KING SUNNY ADÉ

w/ Souliah Evah, Winspear Centre Tue, June 23 (Snort) Tickets available at the Winspear box office (428-1414).

For most people of a certain age,

Frank Sinatra, the Chairman of the Board, to be precise - but to an equally loyal group of fans there's a Chairman who is still going strong Nigeria's King Sunny Adé.

The 62-year-old purveyor of juju music - now recognized as an early to have disappeared from the map for a few years, but zealous fans know back home in Nigeria, attempting to help out as best as he can while the country goes through tumultuous political and cultural changes.

"I am respected there - they listen to me," explains the singer/guitarist, tired but up early after a long check after they landed in Atlanta.

There have been problems, and ! who Sunny Adé is We are all Ni-

With that presistable juju beat beckoning them, how couldn't they? as a musician he's revered beyond

due to the continuing struggle with on behalf of musicians' rights, but support of juju music itself declines

"Generation by generation, the notes. "We are in the computer age now, and everybody makes music cent at their job.

with King Sunny Adé - while he overproduced music of today, most a bit of derision in his voice as he understand it for what it is without the aid of computers, Sunnv Adé can pulling an entire audience off the

mits "The music industry changes best, for people that like it. It's like jazz. Within jazz you can have traditional jazz or rock jazz, but when It's live, and it's played by people. My

MUSIC PREVIEW . QUIZ TIME! . BY TRENT WILKIE 1452 words

No Hands On Buzzers

CAN NEW ZEALAND INDIE-POPPERS CUT OFF YOUR HANDS PASS OUR RIGOUROUS EDMONTON I.O. TEST?

CUT OFF YOUR HANDS

w/ Brasstronaut, Pawn Shop (10551-82 Ave). Wed, June 24 (8pm). Tickets; \$13.50, available at the door and through Ticketmaster (451-8000/ticketmaster.com)

New Zealand's Cut Off Your Hands (not to be confused with Vancouver's cut-off feet - see what I did there?) are coming to Edmonton for the first time this Wednesday. After various lineup and name changes, the stronger-than-ever trio of Kiwi indie poppers will bring their tour into the River City for their inaugural show - a show that takes the lads farther north than they've ever been. Their blend of '80s sounds and '90s aggression should go over well with the home team, and so, to commemorate the popping of their arctic cherry, I decided to ask lead singer Nick Johnston a few skill-testing question to ease his immersion into Edmontonian society. I began with an

SEE Magazine: What percentage of Edmonton women over the age of 18 carry weapons?

pepper spray considered a weapon? SEE: Yes. Yes they are.

NJ: Okay, then I would say ... um,

SEE: Probably

NI: Nice!

SEE: Next question. What is the Edmonton Eskimos?

NJ: The Eskimos. What league do they play in? Is it gridiron?

SEE: Yes, sorry, gridiron. Not

NJ: Can I ask someone? [Yelling off phone! Hey, do you know much

NJ: Because it is so cold in the winter, I would have to say under a fro-

SEE: Very nice, very nice

NJ: Thank you.

SEE: What is the Edmontonian's

NJ: Well, because it's so cold I Russia so ... Wait, is it vodka?

SEE: It is plain old beer.

NJ: I was going to say beer!

about Canadian football ... like, gridiron? No? He doesn't. Okay ... is it an Eskimo?

SEE: It's a polar bear.

NJ: Oh, a polar bear. That is awesome. Wait a minute ... they are the

SEE: I never said we weren't ridiculous here ... as anywhere else, I

NJ: [laughing] I see.

cold climate, what would be the best Nick Johnston: Shit ... is mace and place to hide a body? You have five

assimilating to our culture. At the same time, Johnston posed a few questions that I have been asking myself for years. Why are the Eskimos still going by that somewhat racist name and not the Inuit? And if Johnston's right, why are half of our women armed? If we went to New Zealand, would it be the same island surrounded by an ocean of prairie? Are we the Kiwis of the north? I feel a song coming on ... cue



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Health Canada

CD REVIEWS



Experimental Poo

GOBBLE GOBBLE

Neon Gravevard

(independent)

★★★★☆

Either Cecil Frena (aka Gobble Gobble) mobsessed with death and decay, melse he just needs a whole lot of moisturizer. The songs on the local musician's new album Neon Graveyard are filled with references to fountains or ashes, piles of salt, bones, acorns, windstorms of dust, unwatered lawns, sunburns, scars. There's even a song called "O Sacred Dandruff" which Frena croons to the flaking skir

on his knuckles "puckering up in blistered curds." Not that you'd be able to make out what Frena is saying without the accompanying lyrics sheet — his voice is run through so many filters, it's as if you're listening to someone play you w bad tape recording of someone whispering through megaphone over your cellphone. It's the voice of a mummy, the voice of a dying toy robot, a voice without a trace of saliva or phlegm in it. And yet, for all this, the album is surprisingly melodic, and bursting with sonic imagination. It's also frequently very funny — on "Mountain of Flesh," for instance, Frena sings. "If you're ■ solipsist, well then, what am 1?" Decay was never this much fun put it on, shed your skin, and dance around in your bones. PAUL MATWYCHUK

DIRTY PROJECTORS

Bitte Orca

(Domino)

One of the great crutches of the music critic is to describe a band's sound by invoking other bands that sound a little bit like them: "It's Beck meets Burial," we might say, or "It's like Cat Power and They Might Be Giants had a baby." Toss of a few dozen words about the tracks we like best, and we're done for the

day. Well, Brooklyn avant-indie popsters Dirty Projectors have kicked those comfortable crutches out from under me. It's not that Bitte Orca doesn't have moments that recall other bands — at times, they sound like everything from vintage Nico (the gentle "Two Doves" even half-quotes "These Days") to the trust-fund Africanisms of Vampire Weekend (especially on "No Intentions"), it's that just when you think you've spotted an influence, the band has already moved onto some fresh new melodic idea. It's a fascinating album to listen to, and I can't get enough of those otherworldly harmonies of Amber Coffman and Angel Deradoorian that seem like pure sound — all diaphragm, no lung. At the same time, it's a disc that holds you at arm's length — Longstreth's lyrics keep referring to sunrises, horizons, "fluorescent half-domes" faraway in the distance. I wanted a few more songs about things I can touch. PAUL MATWYCHUK



PASSION PIT

Manners

(Sony)

Passion Pit is like listening to the Gibb brothers go indie rock — it's just as high-pitched, just as annoying, and just as catchy. If you can overcome Michael Angelakos' plaintive caterwauling on Manners' opening track "Make Light," you'll discover Angelakos eases back on the squeaking for the rest of this

debut full-length, downshifting to a drifting nasally drone on "Little Secrets." His wispy kiddie voice works well with the song's sunny electro pulses, backed by what seems to be a children's choir bragging how they're getting "higher and higher." Jingle bells and tingling parabolas of faux-xylophone accent the album, most noticeably on "Folds in Your Hands" and "Eyes as Candles," while "Swimming in the Flood" is the perfect soundtrack to watch clouds float by in mid-July. Throw in "Sleepyhead," with its tumbling cartoon angel choir background loop, and Manners makes a decent addition to your library if you're looking for some dreamy pop disguised as indie cool. KATHLEEN BELL



DAVE MATTHEWS BAND

Big Whiskey and the GrooGrux King

(Rama Rags)

女女女会会

Big Whiskey and the GrooGrux King is the Dave Matthews Band's first release since the passing of founding member and saxophonist LeRoi Moore. In many ways the album is a tribute to the band's fallen comrade, opening and closing as it does with a sax solo. There are also more than a few musings on the mysteries of

life along the way, as on the first single, "Funny the Way It Is" with its circle-of-life line about a "soldier's last breath, his baby being born." As a whole, though, the disc stays close to the DMB basics; some sweet ballads like "Baby Blue" and "You and Me," plus a few sexy, smouldering, somewhat embarrassing "Crash Into Me"-esque lines "I like my coffee with toast and jelly/But I'd rather be licking from your back to your belly" (from "Shake Me Like a Monkey"). None of the tunes are spectacular, but the band's famously loyal fanbase probably won't care, not with uptempo jams like "Why I Am" and "Alligator Pie" sure to become new staples of their rock-solid stage show MICHELLE GARCIA



Alt-Rock 311

(Sony)

Is someone in 311 sleeping with a Sony record exec? They've been allowed to put out one awful album after another for years, and Uplifter continues their trend of unremarkable noise. Hyped as 311's hardest album. yet, Uplifter takes a dash of rock-radio "hard" guitar, infuses it with a bit of what I think is supposed to be

reggae, and mixes it all up into an unlistenable 46 minutes and 54 seconds that I'll never get back. What makes this album so notably terrible, though, Isn't the music but the lyrics, which I'm embarrassed just listening to — I can't imagine actually singing them. On "Something Out of Nothing," wordsmith Nick Hexum sings, "I've one conclusion/It's not illusion/But it's creativity/The supernatural thing that happens between you and me, yeah." Yeah, Perhaps it's best to look at this Bob Rock-produced failure as a motivational album. It lets all those terrible young bands out there know there's no reason to let lack of talent, originality, inspiration, or honesty stand in the way of their dreams

LISTEN - BY FISH GRIWKOWSKY

SONIC YOUTH

Thurston Moore has hinted that Sonic Youth has been holding The Eternal back mystic sound into a war machine and we'd still w swaying. But instead of

Grandna Rumer we get a downright nervu Moore, the ever-evil Kim Gordon, and my underdog favourite Lee Ranaldo actually normal, baton-pass formula. dance of a rotting magpie chick. It's like agelessly so - so the album title in perfect. The Moore-fronted "Antenna" is where the revolution really starts as he ate "faaaar away" showing us how high in the mix their slightly broken vocals are

ocean Morphine bass on "What We Know," where Moore alludes to one of with just a hint of modern metal. Gordon rips apart the walls, then the sky itself, with no pause before the next song, where everyone sings at once. She also kills on the Hawaiian-twinged "Malibu Gas Station,"

with a snap. Ranaldo as always crosses the

on The Eternal is patient and

gate III the end with a Birds-v heart. All the way across, it's about a beat which never clean. Please come to Edmonton.

+++++

VOIVOD INFINI

year so far. Voivod's self proclaimed capstone is a piece Bonded together with

rather palatable domain of Alice Cooper, Nir vana, Motorhead, and Iggy Pop hits. Central to these compositions are Piggy's last guitar efforts, many of them rescued from a lanton into the Smithsonian. But Snake's trashcan Oscar voice - which sounds 100 times better first showed up — is just as towering. And eternally hard and heavy, Vorvod emerges as a razor-winged butterfly. Can't wait for

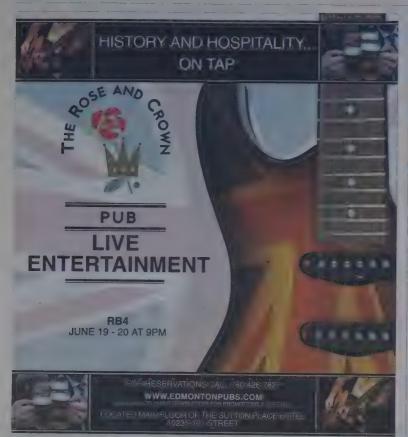
the next mutation.

OLD SCHOOL **BOZ SCAGGS**

SH K DEGREES (1976) Like a bleached-out "Hang

Scaggs exemplifies a certain kind of soggy, late-'70s loneliness that disappeared when Max Headroom showed up. Romantic yet pathetic. Scaggs waits till the last-call lights of the disco go up before songwriting, "Lowdown" and "Lido Shuffle" being such familiar songs you almost can't hear them. If you ever want to be really really sad when you masturbate, this music is the used







MUSIC BUZZ - MUNICIPAL HAPPENINGS 1565 words

Pride Pulls Us Into The Future



WILDLIFE FISHGRIWKOWSKY

LAST WEEKEND'S GAY PRIDE PARADE SPELLED OUT "WORLD-CLASS CITY" IN BRIGHT PINK, GLITTERY LETTERS

As MC Binki pointed out to 4,000 happy homos at the Pride gardens on Saturday, Edmonton has made substantial Tigger sproings in the last 10 years. Back then, a couple hundred LGBTTQs would clot around Gazebo Park looking like a gay birthday party, waving for honks and dreading the next thing then-mayor Bill Smith would deny all of us as a common people.

What was arrogantly and specifically held back is now easily the best party the city sees every year — the

the lure floats and buses by its own recruitment vehicle with awkward Photoshop decal design.

Rock and roll

As we're talking cops on parade—
I'm rather torn on the "no swearing" rule. From a free speech angle, it's cockshit. But, if the police really are interested in their image maybe not talking like some apehumper outside of Iron Horse almost immediately in every street encounter is sage policy. Especially if you're trying to be the jingoistic good guy.

Yes, there's that petty part of me that's happy for once cops should have to grudgingly submit to a rule as utterly arbitrary and even ridiculous as the ones they throw at the rest of us — but that fades quickly. I think, at base and as a supposedly moral enforcer and role model, it would be nice if your average officer simply wanted to escalate less — to be the guys who show their cool by not totally losing it as some

FOOTHILLS OF SHOULDER MUSCLES BRANDED "INTEGRITY"
MIX WITH PINK BRACELET COPS, AND MILE ZERO IS
FRANTICALLY BECKONED OFF THE EPS TANK, WHICH IS
PACED FROM BEHIND BY ITS OWN RECRUITMENT VEHICLE.

irony being how much closer encouraging so many sequins and feathers to parade down Jasper actually brings us to being the ever-dropped "world-class city" status in terms of diversity and, you know, actual, total fun

But these days, as a dyke couple walks by my house holding hands Monday morning, things have securely moved into the future. The provincial politicians all come out to shell their wares (including, after the debacle of Bill 44, a ridiculously present Conservative), and a major banking institution sponsors the whole event with banners, umbrellas, and a squadron of its own RRSP-ILFs Foothills of shoulder muscles branded "Integrity" mix with pink bracelet cops, and Mile Zero is frantically beckoned off the EPS tank, which is paced from behind amid

skid flins out

Conclusion: this should be a deeply urged policy with wiggle room.

Back to music. It's been a notable week for Paul Arnusch, whose first gig as keyboardist for The Wet Secrets was in the Pride beer gardens in Churchill and saw him groped by at least one drag queen. The next day, he was onstage at That's Edmonton For You!, which you're probably tired of reading about, and another of his bands, The Whitsundays, is opening for Andrew WK at Sled Island next Wednesday at the Factory Party down in Calgary.

Arnusch also just did the score for an 8.5-minute film in Vancouver called *The Artiste*, but there's greater news still, from yet another band he's in. "I just got the e-mail," he tells me, saying **Faunts** are looking good to be on *NHL 2010*. "I don't even know what song. We also signed to Kompact in the UK. They're huge and have their own booking company and everything, so it's kind of like a record deal.

But he comes back to the videogame possibility with a real grin: "I'm playing summer ice hockey at different rinks, so to be able to come at hockey-type guys with the NHL thing blows their fucking minds."







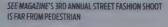


hot off the streets









It's amazing what one day on Whyte Avenue will produce. This year's street fashion issue consists almost entirely of people we pulled off the street, and damn, Edmonton, you look good!

From rock 'n' roll marnas who have always called Edmonton home to labourers from Fort McMurray, from casual leans and T-shirts to fully turned out rockabilly enthusiasts, we were astounded by the variety of personalities and tastes.

So indulge yourself in some model-free fashion, and see what Edmonton is really wearing.

meryl smith lawton, ian jackson

bamboo ballroom, 8206-104 St.

michael nunweiler, angela brunschot, andrea mcquade

Computers for photo shoot provided by My Mac Dealer, 10441-80 Ave SEE Magazine would like to thank everyone who made this shoot possible.









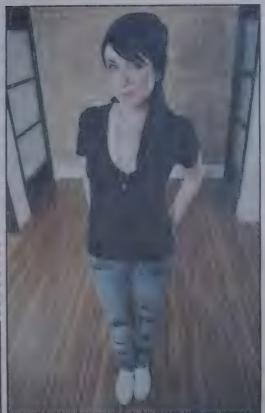


OCCUPATION: Musician, sound tech, record store clerk

Bailey, Headcase, \$60 BOTTOM Levis cords, The Bay, \$65 Clarks, \$120-ish











OCCUPATION: Student
GLASSES Gucci, \$300
(Everything is from China.)
JEANS Abercrombie & Fitch, \$80







summer street style | special pullout





OCCUPATION: Student STYLE: Classy, contemporary, and simple Ralph Lauren, \$220 Le Chateau, \$120 Nine West, Joneve, \$124 Le Chateau, \$50 Michael Hill



Keltie Squires
OCCUPATION: Actor, Klvane store assistant, student STYLE: Forever changing! Tiffany's and a custom ring, \$65 and the ring was a gift
American Apparel
Just USA, Devine, \$80 Spring Devine, \$25









OCCUPATION: Actor and clown STYLE: Clothes that celebrate who I am

From Italy It's Bike Week!

> Matt Sawyer (right) OCCUPATION: Equipment operator STYLE: Skater Fox, West 49, \$50 Spy, \$165 White gold ring and a Nixon watch, Peoples, \$2,000 and \$240

John DeYoung (left)
OCCUPATION: Labourer
STYLE: Dress to impress Spy, \$110 Bulova watch, \$300 Element, \$60 Rocawear, \$65 Circa, \$110





24 · June 18 - June 24, 2009 · see magazine · edimonton





OCCUPATION: Starving artist STYLE: Colourful, confused, and eclectic

Value Village, \$2 IEWELRY Maggie Walt, Value Village,

Artifacts, Chinatown, \$1 and \$45

"Somebody made it," \$8

BOTTOM Value Village, \$7

Value Village, \$3

33 Yr Amsterdam, Revolution Cycle, \$800 ("And it's worth it!")

> OCCUPATION: Full-time adventurer STYLE: "Whatever I find on the floor in the morning." ELASSES Kristina's Farm, Value Village, \$2 IOP Sack, Frog Kissers, \$5 SHOF Birkenstocks, inherited, free BOTTOM Value Village, \$3











Cara
OCCUPATION: Student
STYLE: "I like a good summer dress."
180-Zara
888-1804 Levis, Value Village

Be Zara
Be Zara
Mevis, Value Village
Maughty Monkey, Sterling
Old Strathcona Antique Mall
Urban Outfitters
Thave no clue."

Priya Sundal
OCCUPATION: Student
STYLE: Simple and indie
IEWELRY: Bracelets from
different countries
American Apparel, \$20
American Apparel, \$20
Sandals, from Mexico, \$50
Ralph Lauren, Value Village, \$6







OCCUPATION: Hire me! (Jonathan just graduated with a degree in management. Any jobs? Anyone?)

STYLE: Nice shoes.

GLASSES: Cheap Monday.

High Grade, 530

BOTYOM APC, Gravity Pope, \$200

HOES NDC, Gravity Pope, \$600

1811 Market in Peru, \$3



Justin Der OCCUPATION: Foosh

AT Stussy, Foosh
Freshijve, Foosh
Obey, Foosh
G-Shock, Foosh









Lauren Harris
OCCUPATION: Student
STYLE: Sexy yet sophisticated
Urban Outfitters, \$68
American Apparel, \$40
Bollhouse, Winners

Urban Outfitters, \$16

Jaclyn Findlay (Left)
OCCUPATION: Student
STYLE: Eclectic
HAMMANN Forever 21 MANNES TO Obey
Sender Seychelles Mannes Ardent Sparrow

OCCUPATION: Student
STYLE: Borrowed
Sparrow, TOP: Suka W. Citzens
of Humanity, modified by mel
Vintage Enka Weiner, 3 Chain
Necklace, Chula (all clothing from
Bamboo Ballroom)











OCCUPATION Actor
STYLE Broke Actor Chic
Brand 1773, Urban Outfitters
Some vintage store in
Nanton, Alb, S26
American Apparel, S25
Levis, Urban Outfitters, S75
Value Village, S6

OCCUPATION: Educational assistant

STYLE: Casual DKNY, Bay, \$90

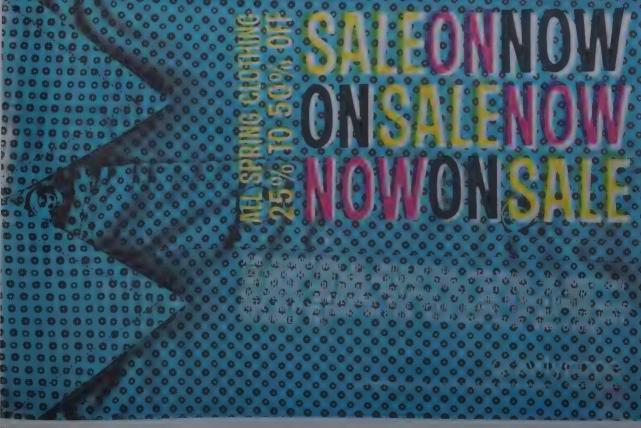
ulan Mane, or in the

OCCUPATION: Student H&M, \$9

Urban Outfitters, \$80











Janelle Jonnson
and haby Lucy Johnston
OCCUPATION: Public relations
STYLE Rock 'n' roll mama/rock 'n'
roll baby
My husband's old Hellacopters
T-shirt, from his closet, free
My sister-in-law's jeans,
from her closet, free
Chuck Taylors, \$70

Buffalo, \$29 Onesie, Lucky Delux \$35

Amber Palmer
OCCUPATION: Student/nothing
because I've graduated
STYLE: Whatever fits
Only, Divine, 560
Squin, Urban Outfitters, 520
Virtage, Decadence, 520





FOOSH 1 O YEAR ANNIVERSARY MONTH EVENTS JUNE 6

10 Year Anniversary T-shirt Drop Plus giveaways

JUNE 11

Foosh x Creative Rec
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7 - 11
Unveiting of FOOSH Mega Munny
by OKEDOKI

JUNE 18

Customer Appreciation Event
This will be HUGE!
Come and help blow the candles on
our birthday cake! More info to come

JUNE 22

Drop Beats Not Bombs Tee Release Limited re-run of the Foosh classic 1 surprise tee and more free giveaways! Record event

JUNE 27

Toy Swap
Edmonton's first toy swap
New Munny customs
Toy giveaways all day
More into to come!



10544C 82 Ave Edmonton, AB Canada, T6E 2A4 780 491 6980 nto@foosh.ca







OCCUPATION: Dynamo! STYLE: Global JEWELRY Erica Werner, Bamboo Ballroom DRI Vintage, Divine, \$25

OCCUPATION: Recessionista/ musician's girlfriend STYLE: I don't like wolves... Marican Apparel, \$20 Roxy-Purr (Calgary)

Value Village, \$2

OCCUPATION: Musician STYLE: Who doesn't like wolves? FOP Simons in Montreal, \$10 зопом бар SHOE Value Village, S10









OCCUPATION: Actor STYLE: I try to look nice sometimes IEWELRY Earrings, Ember Konopaki TOP Consignment, \$5 SHOES Urban Outfitters, \$40 A pretty lady in Vietnam gave it to me, free."

OCCUPATION: Filmmaker STYLE: Hobo chic SINEE HODE CRIC
GLASSES Urban Outfitters
FEWER'R Barack Obama Watth,
Chinatown NYC, S15 ("I got it before
he was president — you know, when
he was underground.")
TO? Consignment shop in Toronto, S5
BOTTOM RW&Co., \$40
SHOES Jack Purcell, some shoe store
in os Angels





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us Rumour \$25 on min. 2 syr term



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HOT PICK

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BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA JUBILEE AUDITO

> GRILL, 10030-102 ST. With Heat Ray and Allisair Ouassum. Doors at 9 p.m. Tickets: \$10 at door.
>
> DAN SKAKUN JEFFREY'S CAFÉ &

DAVE MARTIN CARROT COMMUNITY DEAN LONSDALE HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB.
15120A STONY PLAIN RO.

GOODVIN ACT BEER HUNTER 386 ST ALBERT RD. ST. GREEN DIESEL IFT NIGHTCLUR, 9277-34 AVE. With Fifth and

PEGGS JAIL MOUIT PEDDITION.
HIGHWATER JUG BAND BLUE CHAIR CAFÉ. 9624-76 AVE.
KRISTILYN ROBERTSON STEEPS OLD GLENORA, 12411
STONY PLAIN RD. Doors at 8:30 p.m.
LASCIVIOUS BURLESQUE TROUPE STARLITE ROOM,

10030-102 ST. With Give 'Em Hell Boys and The Frolics. Doors

SEEN IT LIVE - GREAT GIGS YOU MISSED LAST WEEK

SUMMERIN

Sugarbewl

at 9 p.m. Tickets: \$12 at door.
MISTER LUCKY PARKLAND PUB & GRILL, #30, 53222 RANGE

RANDALL MACDONALD HULBERT'S, 7601-115 ST. Doors at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$10 at door. SLATES HYDEAWAY ALL AGES ART SPACE, 10209-100 AVE.

With The Get Down and Earnon McGrath, Doors iil 7:30 p.m.

DJs/Club Nights

CONNECTED FRIDAYS BANK ULTRA LOUNGE, 10765 JASPER AVE. Local house and international guest DJs.

DJ DONOVAN NEWCASTLE PUB AND GRILL, 6108-90 AVE.

DJ EDDY TOONFLASH BUDDY'S PUB, 11725B JASPER AVE. DJ SEXXXY BOOTS BAR, 10242-106 ST. NIBIS ON THE ROCKS, 11740 JASPER AVE DANCE HALL REGGAE NIGHT 180 DEGREES, 10730-107

MIND FUNK FRIDAYS TWILIGHT AFTERHOURS, 10018-105

MOD CLUB HALO LOUNGE, 10538 JASPER AVE.

Live Music

100 MILE HOUSE HULBERT'S, 7601-115 ST, Doors at 8 p.m

BRUCE AND LORI MOHACSY JEFFREY'S CAFÉ & WINE BAR. CHARLEY PRIDE JUBILEE AUDITORIUM, 11455-87 AVE. Info

FOX OPERA HYDEAWAY ALL AGES ART SPACE, 10209-100

AVE. With Oh Generica. Doors at 7:30 p.m. GOODVIN ACT BEER HUNTER PUB, 7522-178 ST. THE JOE-DEPENDANTS BLUE CHAIR CAFE, 9624-76 AVE. KATIE'S CROSSING MUSIC FESTIVAL KATIE'S CROSSING BASELINE ROAD & RR 222 Local musical acts. Doors at 3 p.m.

TRAIL SOUTH Doors at 8 p.m.
PERSEPOLIS MEAD HALL, 10940-166A ST. With Harpazo POLAR RENDEZVOUS PUB, 10108-149 ST. With Unseen

THE RED LIMIT JET NIGHTCLUB, 9221-34 AVE, With Face ROXANNE POTVIN HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB. 15120A STONY

SOUTHROOT BRIXX BAR & GRILL, 10030-102 ST. With Surefire Machine. Doors at 9 p.m.
SUREFIRE MACHINE BRIXX BAR & GRILL, 10030-102 ST. Doors at 9 p.m. Tickets: \$10 at door.
WILL BELCOURT STARLITE ROOM, 10030-102 ST. CD

DJs/Club Nights

DJ HOT PHILLY RED STAR, 10538 JASPER AVE. DJ SEXXXY BOOTS BAR, 10242-106 ST. DJ SHERI NEWCASTLE PUB AND GRILL 6108-90 AVE DANCE HALL REGGAE NIGHT 180 DEGREES, 10730-107 ion IIVEXX. Doors at 10 p.m. Info

MENACE SESSIONS BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE, 10425 WHYTE

OH SNAP1 TEMPLE, 10030-102 ST.

CELTIC MUSIC SESSION DEVANEY'S IRISH PUB, 9013-88 DON BERNER BLUE PEAR, 10643-123 ST.

JIM FINDLAY BILLE CHAIR CAFÉ 9624-76 AVE MUSTARD SMILE ON THE ROCKS, 11740 JASPER AVE. Doors

PETRO POLILIIN CHATEAU LOUIS, 11727 KINGSWAY AVE.

SHANE YELLOWBIRD RIVER CREE RESORT AND CASINO, WHITEMUD DR & WHITEMLID RD. ENOCH. Doors at 7 p.m. Tickets: \$39.50. Info: www.

SUNDAY NIGHT JAM BEER ALBERT

DJ RUDY ELECTRO BUDDY'S PUB, 11725B JASPER AVE.

Live Music

ILL GOODVIN DEVANEY'S IRISH PUB. 9013-88 AVE.
WIDE AWAKE THE WORKS INTERNATIONAL, #200, 10225
100 AVE.

DJs/Club Nights

DI RUDY ELECTRO BUDDY'S PUB, 17725B JASPER AVE. ECLECTIC NONSENSE BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE, 10425

Live Music

BACHMAN CUMMINGS REXALL PLACE, 7424-118 AVE. With

COLOURBOOK HYDEAWAY ALL AGES ART SPACE, 10209-100 AVE. With No Gold. Doors at 7:30 p.m.
THE ELIXXXERS BRIXX BAR & GRILL, 10030-102 ST. And

KING SLINNY ADÉ & HIS AFRICAN BEATS WINSPEAR CENTRE, 9720-102 AVE. With Souljah Fyah. Doors at 7 p.m. LADYHAWK PAWN SHOP, 2ND FLOOR, 10551-82 AVE. Doors

LIVE ACOUSTIC THE HAT 10251 JASPER AVE. Doors at 9 p.m.

DJs/Club Nights DJ ARROWCHASER BUDDY'S PUB, 11725B JASPER AVE.
DJ HOT PHILLY RED STAR, 1053B JASPER AVE.

Live Music

Doors at 9 p.m.

ALLEZ OUEST BLUE CHAIR CAFÉ, 9624-76 AVE. CUT OFF YOUR HANDS PAWN SHOP, 2ND FLOOR, 10551-82

DUFF ROBISON DEVANEY'S IRISH PUB, 9013-88 AVE.
FLEETWOOD MAC REXALL PLACE, 7424-118 AVE. Doors JAPANDROIDS STARLITE ROOM, 10030-102 ST, With The

Mitts and guests. Doors at 8 p.m. JENN GRANT HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB, 15120A STONY PLAIN RD. RAH RAH HYDEAWAY ALL AGES ART SPACE, 10209-100 AVE.

DJs/Club Hights
BEAT PARTY WEDNESDAYS STOLLI'S, #201, 10368

GUEST DJ RED STAR, 10538 JASPER AVE.

RETROACTIVE RADIO BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE, 10425

WILD STYLE WEDNESDAYS BRIXX BAR & GRILL 10030

Live Music

BOBBY AUSTIN SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, 10012 101A AVE,

DUFF ROBISON ATLANTIC TRAP AND GILL, 7704-104 ST, DWAYNE ALLEN SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, CAPILANO MALL, JUN 18-19; SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB, 10012-101A AVE

GOLON THE POCKS 17740 IASPER AVE. IIIN 19-20 Doors at

GRAHAM LAWRENCE JULIAN'S PIANO BAR, 11727 KING-

SWAY AVE, JUN 19-20 Doors at 8 p.m.
JIMMY WHIFFEN SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB (WEM), TO

LINE OF SIGHT URBAN LOUNGE, 10544 WHYTE AVE. JUN LORNE BURNSTICK DEVANEY'S IRISH PUB, 9013-88 AVE

MARK MCGARRIGLE TOUCH OF CLASS GAMING ROOM, 1777 KINGSWAY AVE, JUN 19-20 Doors at 8:30 p.m.
NATHANIEL SUTTON CHURCHILL SOUARE. JUN 19-JUL 1

RB4 ROSE & CROWN, #195, 10235-101 ST, JUN 19-21 SAM COCKRELL BLUES ON WHYTE, 10329 WHYTE AVE,

STAN GALLANT SHERLOCK HOLMES PUB. (WEM), JUN 23-77

TREVOR FINLAY BLUES ON WHYTE, 10329 WHYTE AVE.

V.I.P. YELLOWHEAD CASINO, 12464-153 ST, JUN 19-20 THE X-BAND CASINO EDMONTON, 7055 ARGYLL RD, JUN

OPEN STAGE

COAST TO COAST PUB AND GRILL 552 CALGARY TR. Doors

DUSTER'S PUB 6402-118 AVE. Doors at-

LB'S PUB #110, 23 AKINS DR, ST.

ALBERT Doors III 9 p.m.

COAST TO COAST PUB AND GRILL 552 CALGARY TR. Doors

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION (NORWOOD BRANCH) 11150-82 ST.

Doors at 7 p.m.

BLUES ON WHYTE 10329 WHYTE AVE. Doors at 4 p.m. CARROT ARTS COFFEE HOUSE 9351-118 AVE. Doors at COAST TO COAST PUB AND GRILL 557 CALGARY TR. Doors

A 19 m.

CROWN PUB 10709-109 ST. Doors at 7 p.m.

LB'S PUB #110, 23 AKINS DR. ST. ALBERT Doors at 4:30 p.m.

MORANGO'S TEK CAFE 10118-79 ST. Doors at 7 p.m.

MORANGO'S TEK CAFE 10118-79 ST. Doors at 3 p.m.

HOT PICK

DUSTER'S PUB 6402-718 AVE.

EDDIE SHORTS 10713-124 ST. Doors #1 9 p.m.

HOOLIGANZ PUB 10704-724 ST. Doors #1 79 p.m.

HULBERT'S F067-115 ST. Doors #1 7 p.m.

LOOP LOUNGE 367 ST. ALBERT RD, ST. ALBERT Doors at

NEWCASTLE PUB & GRILL 6108-90 AVE. Doors at 3 p.m.
O'BYRNE'S IRISH PUB 10616 WHYTE AVE. Doors at 9 p.m.

IVORY CLUB 10304-111 ST. Doors at 8 p.m.
ROSE BOWL 10111-117 ST. Doors at 9 p.m.
WUNDERBAR HOFBRAUHAUS 8120-101 ST. Doors at

THE DRUID 11606 JASPER AVE. Doors at 9 p.m.
LB'S PUB #110, 23 AKMS OR, ST. ALBERT Doors at 9 p.m.
SIDELINER'S PUB 11018-127 ST. Doors at 8 p.m.
SPORTSMAN'S LOUNGE 8170-50 ST. Doors at 8 p.m.

EDDIE SHORTS 10713-124 ST. Doors at 9 p.m.
HAVEN SOCIAL CLUB 15120A STONY PLAIN RD. Doors at

HOOLIGANZ PUB 10704-124 ST. Doors at 7:30 p.m.
LITTLE FLOWER OPEN STAGE 8906-99 ST. Doors at 8

PLEASANTVIEW COMMUNITY HALL 10860-57 AVE. SECOND CUIP 12336-124 ST Doors at 8 p.m.

34 • June 18 - June 24, 2009 • see massazine • edmonton

MOVIE REVIEW - DOCUMENTARY - BY PAUL MATWYCHUK | 744 words

I Think I Can Browbeat Mike Tyson

ATHLETE? MISOGYNIST? FAMILY MAN? RAPIST? THUG? JAMES TOBACK'S TYSON SUGGESTS THE BOXER MIGHT BE ALL OF THESE

TYSON

Directed by James Toback. Featuring Mike Tyson. Opens Fri. June 19.

One of the most memorable pieces of archival footage in Tyson, director James Toback's feature-length profile of Mike Tyson, is the interview the onetime heavyweight boxing champ gave moments after ignominiously losing his final professional bout to Kevin McBride. Sweat still pouring off his body, the Maori tattoo decorating the left side of his face now seeming like a childish affectation instead of the fearsome mark of a warrior, Tyson tells a ringside interviewer he just "doesn't have the fighting guts anymore" and that he saw this particular bout solely as a way to pay his bills.

The only time I've ever watched an entire boxing match from start to finish was about 10 years ago, when girl I liked (and who was much cooler than I was) suggested we go to a bar where they had a satellite feed of a heavyweight title fight. "What the hell," I figured. "Why not?" Little did I know that we'd be seeing the infamous 1997 rematch between Tyson and Evander Holyfield, the one where Tyson bit Holyfield's ear hard enough to draw blood. Most of my knowledge of Tyson came from jokes by late-night comedians, and his bizarre behaviour in the ring that night cemented his image in my mind as both a crazed thug, the scariest of "scary black men," as well as, paradoxically, a pathetic victim of American celebrity culture

I gained a great deal more sympathy for Tyson a few years later, after reading David Remnick's insightful profile of him in The New Yorker, and the movie Tyson rehabilitates him even further in my eyes. I feel I've especially underestimated Tyson's intelligence - I can still recall those news articles about his release from prison after serving three years on rape charges, many of them dripping with condescension at Tyson's statement that he spent his time behind bars reading War and Peace and so on. With that tiny, lisping voice, the gap between his front teeth, and those wide, wary, narrowdemeanour of a scholar, but as I listened to him talk about strategizing during his fights, it seemed to me that Tyson's level of physical genius is off the charts.

And he is a mesmerizing speaker in his way, he's as talented a phrase maker as his idol. Muhammad Ali "Every punch is thrown with bad intention and the speed of a devil," he tells Toback at one point. "Bad intention and the speed of a devil" - what an amazing expression! Tyson peppers his sentences with unexpectedly florid bits of vocabulary: "skullduggery" is a favourite word of his, and instead of using the word "rape," he talks about "taking a woman's chastity." He calls Don King "a wretched, slimy, reptilian motherfucker," and an audience member heckles him at



Anatomy Of A Heavyweight | According to Tyson, the toughest opponent Mike Tyson ever faced was his own self-destructive nature. PHOTO COURTESY OF SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

ass! You couldn't last two minutes in my world, bitch! I'll fuck you 'til you love me, faggot!"

Of course, that tirade also hints at Tyson's deeply twisted attitude toward women, whom he seems unable to relate to except as either disposable conquests or as enemy combatants. At one point, he claims that his ideal partner would be # powerful woman, a corporate CEO even, whom he could take into the bedroom and "dominate her sexually"

He continues to deny that he raped beauty queen Desiree Washington, whom he refers to as "that wretched swine of a woman." Toback has been criticized for not interrogating Tyson inore aggressively on this point, but it should be said that Tyson has been conceived as a Tyson monologue, not a Tyson interview, and I think Toback still edits this section of the film in a way that strongly indicates we're merely getting Tyson's skewed, self-serving view of the incident, not

an objective account of the truth.

Tyson concludes with the boxer talking proudly about his six children and eagerly saying he looks forward to the rest of his life. But the man clearly still has demons plaguing him, and of course, just last month, his four-year-old daughter Exodus died, accidentally strangled on a cord dangling from an exercise treadmill. Mike Tyson clearly has some tough fights still ahead of him — I hope he



Remembrance Of Things Animated | A young Ari Folman and his fellow soldiers arrive on the beaches of Lebanon in a KE

Steppe from the Ocean programment Moder With Rashir PHOTO COURTESY OF SEVILLE PICTURES

DVD DICTATOR . THE MOVIES YOU MUST BUY THIS TUESDAY

MNESIA!

Waltz With Bashir DIRECTOR | Ari Folman

Critics called this Israeli film an "animated documentary," but The Dictator thinks it would be more accurate to call it an impressionistic memoir with documentary elements. (This is why Blockbuster has never hired him to organize their shelves.) The film begins with Folman realizing, while chatting with an old friend from his days in the Israeli army, that he has no recollection of the 1992. Sabra and Shabila massacre, which he clearly participated in. Folman's quest to regain his memories is rendered in dreamlike imagery that pays off powerfully in the final scene.

MORE AMNES

Last Year At Marienbad CAST | Delphine Seyrig, Giorgio Albertazzi

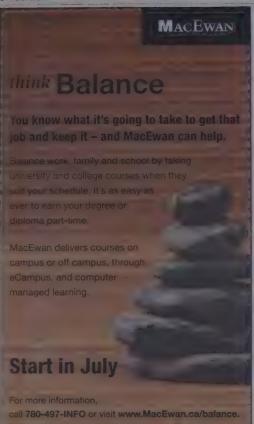
A nameless man approaches a nameless woman in a glamourous European spa and insists that she met him a year earlier at Marienbad. She claims not to recognize him; he insists she promised to leave her husband so they could run away together, is she lying? Ammesiac? Is the man deluded? Are they both dead? Are they both dead? Are they robots, maybe? Criterion's new two-disc edition of Alain Resnais' 1961. New Wave classic doesn't make the goings-on any less enigmatic, but at least the new digital transfer will make the photography seem a lot clearer.

A FILM TOO GOOD TO BE FORGOTTEN!

High Hopes

CAST | Philip Davis, Ruth Sheen, Edna Doré

British writer/director Mike Leigh had worked extensively in TV prior to the theatrical re-lease of *High Hopes* in 1988, but this comedy about a loving, down-at-heet couple holding firm to their socialist ideals in the face of Thatcherite family and neighbours was the film that introduced his work to international audiences. The characterizations are broader than they would be in later Leighs like *Naked*, but Leigh's loose, improvisational style keeps the humour from turning bitter. Stass Philip Davis and Ruth Sheen would work for Leigh many more times in the decades to follow.





MOVIE REVIEW . HAMS AND EGGERS . BY PAUL MATWYCHUK | 628 words

The Odyssey Couple

DESPITE ITS BOHEMIAN
TRAPPINGS, AWAY WE GO IS
AS CONVENTIONAL AS ANY
HOLLYWOOD ROMCOM

AWAY WE GO

Directed by Sam Mendes. Starring John Krasinski, Maya Rudolph, Catherine O'Hara, Jeff Daniels, Allison Janney, Maggie Gyllenhaal. Opens Fri, June 19.

**☆☆☆

'Burt, do you have a doula?"

"Oh yes – it's delicious!"

"No, not a dolma - a doula!"

That snippet of dinner-table dialogue is from Away We Go, but take away the au courant bohemian cultural references and you've got a setup and a punchline straight out of the most wide-lapelled '70s sitcom imaginable. Strip away Ellen Kuras' evocative cinematography and the deliberately shabby production and costume design, and Away We Go's premise turns out to be pretty formulaic as well: when their in-laws abruptly announce they're moving to Europe, expectant couple Burt (John Krasinski) and Verona (Maya Rudolph) realize that they have nothing keeping them in their current home and so they take a trip around the U.S. (with a quick detour to Montreal) to sort of audition various cities. And in each city, they reconnect with a different set of friends or family members. Basibut director Sam Mendes stages everything as if he were making Carnal Knowledge

Many of the people Burt and Verona meet on their trip are unapologetic caricatures, especially Allison Janney as a Phoenix mother whose inability to censor herself gets worse, not better, when her kids are within



Pam Beasley Is Going To Be Very, Very Jealous | Maya Rudolph makes a baby with John Krasinski in Away We Go. PHOTO BY FRANCOIS OF HAME!

earshot; and Maggie Gyllenhaal as an obnoxious New Age university professor so committed to "continuum parenting" that she won't even allow strollers in her house and is shocked to learn that Burt and Verona are planning on keeping their child in another room when they have sex.

These scenes could be the building blocks for a light, amusing soMunch's five miscarriages while they watch her onstage doing a chaste poledance during "amateur night" at metrip club—all to the accompaniment of The Velvet Underground's "Oh! Sweet Nuthin'."

I think I made a fundamental break with Away We Go during that ghastly sequence, and the film never-came close to winning me back. ("Oh!

THE FILM IS FOUR CHRISTMASES, BUT SAM MENDES DIRECTS IT AS IF HE WERE MAKING CARNAL KNOWLEDGE.

cial comedy for the *Utne Reader* set, but it's not enough for Mendes and screenwriters Dave Eggers and Vendela Vida to "merely" make a comedy; they want *Away We Go* to be something deeper, and so there's a bunch of mopey Nick Drake soundalike songs by Alexi Murdoch that keep popping up on the soundtrack, and they throw in a stunningly awful scene where an old college buddy of Burt's tells him about his wife

Sweet Nuthin"? "Munch"? Aaaaarrrrrggghh!) Every little thing about it started to bug me: John Krasinski's ugly beard, his ugly glasses, even the decision to name his character "Burt." Why is he wearing those glasses anyway? It's never made clear just how poorly off Burt and Verona are - in the opening scenes, they barely seem to be getting by, living in an unheated hovel with a cardboard window and a bedroom one corner of which Burt apparently has converted into a wood shop. But then they go off on this capricious but fairly expensive-looking trip, crisscrossing the country from New England to Arizona to Wisconsin to Montreal to Miami, taking flights and sleeping in hotels, apparently without worrying about any of the costs. It begins to look like Burt could easily afford better glasses and nicer suits and shoes, but chooses instead to wear wallabies, camelhair jackets, and that ugly pair of specs that make his eyes look 50 per cent larger than normal.

Away We Go is more loosely plotted than most comedies of this type, and the settings are scruffier as well. That's refreshing to see, but all the important moments feel phony as can be — we're talking Garden State phony here, folks, like in the scene where Burt and Verona lie on a backyard trampoline and take turns making warm-and-funny promises about how they'll raise their daughter. Sadly, promising to shave was not among them.



O Mother, Why Art Thou?

FIVE WOMEN ATTEMPT TO BALANCE MOTHERHOOD WITH CREATIVE CAREERS IN WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS?

WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS? Directed by Pamela Tanner Boll. Metro Cinema (Zeidler Hall, The Citadel). Fir-Sun, Tue, June 19-21, 23.

Oh, how easy a target this seems. An ultra-earnest documentary about women who shake frame drums and talk about unlocking your inner goddess, who make paintings called Confronting Your Own Worst Fears with no awareness of how hokey it sounds, and who struggle daily to balance their artistic careers with the demands (not to mention societal expectations) of being an attentive mother and wife.

Wait - what was that last one

Yes, the first thing you'll realize during Pamela Tanner Boll's docu-



She Thinks She's A Sculptor, Apparently | Mother of live Janis Wunderlich somehow manages to find time to create in well in procreate in Who Does She Think She is? Photo air CLEWIS STUDIO

on a very personal level. Even the spaciest, most New Age-y of the sub-jects makes her case convincingly, and there's not a single interviewee whom you don't root whole-hearted-ly for.

on the wrong end of custody battles. Two forego their work altogether in favour of teaching — ** decidedly more nurturing, domestic role that marks a clear defeat in contrast with the film's initial ambitions. Another

EVEN THOUGH THE VAST MAJORITY OF ARTISTS ARE WOMEN, THE VAST MAJORITY OF ART EXHIBITIONS STILL ONLY SHOWCASE MALE ART.

mentary Who Does She Think She Is? is that the very mechanism that makes people roll their eyes at the premise is what makes the film so necessary. That's because feminism and gender equality are currently in a very weird limbo stage: they've been completely absorbed into the cultural discourse - ad nauseam, many would hasten to add - and yet at the same time they're completely unrealized. As Boll tells us, even though the vast majority of artists are women, the vast majority of art exhibitions still only showcase male art. For those women who want to be both artists and parents, domestic as well as cavalier, there is much work to be done; we're rolling our eyes at a revolution that, for all intents and purposes, never actually happened.

Boll spends time with five different women from across the United States, all of whom are artists. Some paint, some sculpt, most sketch, one is a singer. They seem like wonderful people across the board, pragmatic and intelligent, but they're being painted with a particularly nasty brush. Because they need to coop themselves up in a studio by themselves for an hour or two every day, there's a growing assumption from their communities that they must somehow be derelict parents. After all, there's only room for one absentee parent, and dads, with their long-nights-at-the-office and boys'nights-out, have had that territory wrapped up for centuries

By far the best decision Boll makes is to build her argument from these case studies, where we see the damaging effect this latent misogyny has Less successful, however, is when Boll tries to shoehorn in a smattering of peripheral issues, like how female gods and artists were written out of the history books, leading to today's fundamentally patriarchal system. It's a vague way to assign blame, and particularly since it's a problem that's accrued gradually, over several millennia, identifying the cause isn't nearly as interesting or important as is the cure.

As for hope that things are improving, well, let's see where these women end up. Two are divorced and woman tries to end on a positive note by saying her dedication to her art sets m good example for her kids; the only problem is, she has two sons.

Only one, a sculptor named Janis Wunderlich, gets to have her cake and eat it too. She's last seen beaming at a big exhibition of her work, with her husband and five doting children in tow. What does she do right? It's hard to say. I like to think it's because she's the most talented in the group, but more likely is that she simply caught a lucky break.





Tyson

Nightly @ 7:10 & 9:10pm SAT & SUN MATINEES @ 2:30pm RATED: 14A NOT RECOMMENDED FOR CHILDREN



My Life in Ruins

Nightly @ 7:00 & 9:00pm SAT & SUN MATINEES @ 2:00pm



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ONLINE MOVIES - HISTORICAL DRAMA | 456 words

Woo Can Play That Game



FREEDOM OF CHOICE G.H. LEWMER
JOHN WOO'S RED CLIFF'IS A
KUROSAWA-ESQUE EPIC THAT
DESERVES BETTER THAN THE
TINY YOUTUBE SCREEN

John Woo needs little introduction to movie fans around the world. He became famous for the innovative Chinese-language policiers he made in the 1980s (A Better Tomorrow, The Killer, Bullet in the Head) that redefined the presentation of action and violence within the traditional thriller genre. With international attention rightfully guaranteed, Woo made a series of kinetic action pictures (Broken Arrow, Face/Off, Mission: Impossible II) that brought in the bucks but delivered little in the interesting to note that Woo's most successful esthetic accomplishment (Windtalkers) was deemed a critical and commercial dud by the powers

hat hate.

Now comes Red Cliff Part 1, arguably Woo's strongest work of the last 20 years and a work that will appeal to anyone who loves movies and especially anyone who loves intelligence within movies. An \$80 million historical piece based on events at the end of the Han Dynasty prior to the beginning of The Three Kingdoms, Red Cliff attempts nothing less than the same blend of lyri-

- a level of thoughtfulness that's unusual in any film (let alone one that cost \$80 million). At the same time, I should make it clear that the film is very much an action epic and it delivers the goods with battle scenes of pagan excitement, balletic editing, and clearly choreographed battles. And when it's all over, you don't feel exhausted or bored — there's none of that false Hollywood "upping the stakes" pile-on that ruins so many

WATCH RED CLIFF ONLINE AT WWW.YOUTUBE.COM.

cism and action that Akira Kurosawa achieved in Seven Samurai. At the same time, Woo grounds the film in historical detail, giving the plot room to breathe in a rhythm that allows for thought and reflection. It's the rare historical epic which actually seems interested in history — I refreshing change from mind-numbing Hollywood epics with their millions of CGI extras carrying virtual swords.

The piece's central theme is heroism and the individual's responsibility to uphold his integrity. Red Cliff also presents a multitude of philosophical questions relating to governance, strategy, and sacrifice I of Red Cliff, you can't wait to see Part 2. What I find most astounding about this film, though, is not its onscreen artistry but the provocative challenge it poses to movie studios in general.

films that emerge from the corporate vaults these days. Once you see Part

this film, though, is not its onscreen artistry but the provocative challenge it poses to movie studios in general. In a summer ripe with manufactured mediocrity posing as entertainment, wouldn't it make sense to release a thrilling human epic that has the potential to be as successful as the Lord of the Rings cycle? Guess not. It's a travesty that this wonderful film cannot be seen on the big screen. To be continued ...





AVW-TELAV









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(1) Includes international lext and picture messages. Excludes premium messages. (2) Unlimited local calling from 7pm to 8am, Monday through Thursday and from 7pm Friday to 8am Monday (3) Taxes are extremely place not included in plan.

MOVIE REVIEW - POPCORN THRILLER - BY PAUL MATWYCHUK - 80 word

Subterranean **Heist-Flick Blues**

THE ORIGINAL TAKING OF PELHAM ONE TWO THREE IS A SACRED TEXT OF '70S CINEMA. BUT THE REMAKE AIN'T BAD

THE TAKING OF PELHAM 123

Directed by Tony Scott. Starring Denzel Washington, John Travolta, Luis Guzmán, James Gandolfini, Now playing. ****

1974 version of The Taking of Pelham One Two Three on his iPod the idea that such a landmark of New York cinema would be remade Scott, no less - seems like sacrilege. The original film is ■ love letter to municipal dysfunction, to the men who kept New York running, sipping bad coffee, acquiring deep, puffy bags under their eyes, wearing uncomfortable polyester slacks, and earning lousy pay for the whole privilege. What would Tony Scott bring to this material, other than hyperactive editing, slick cinematography, and a whole lot of commercial



Well, in fact, he acquits himself better than I expected him to. Is the opening blast of Jay-Z's "99 Problems" even one-third as bracing as David Shire's brassy main title from the original? Does he come up with

an ending that can even hold a candle to the original's beautiful closing shot of Walter Matthau, opening a door for a second time, shaking his head at how close the crook on

PELHAM cont'd on p. 40

As someone who has the entire David Shire soundtrack of the original - and directed by Tony Domino

MOVIE REVIEW · ROMCOM · BY KATHLEEN BELL 1369 words

Troth And Consequences

SANDRA BULLOCK ENTERS A WACKY SHAM MARRIAGE WITH RYAN REYNOLDS IN THE FLUFFY THE PROPOSAL

THE PROPOSAL

Directed by Anne Fletcher Starring Sandra Bullock Ryan Reynolds, Betty White, Mary Steenburgen, Craig T. Nelson. Opens Fri, June 19.

★★★☆☆

I declare, so what? So what if The Proposal represents a gross abuse of the "I hate you! I love you!" story arc? So what if it's yet another romantic comedy whose climactic scene takes place at the airport? So what if you can see not just the ending coming, but every step it takes to get there before the opening credits even roll? The Proposal's cast of sweetheart superstars ensures that, at the very least, you'll have good clean fun getting there.

Margaret Tate (Sandra Bullock) is a Canadian working as a voracious big-time editor in New York. When her hungry eyes settle on timid, eager-to-please, and, I might add, yummy Andrew Paxton (Ryan Reynolds) and she proposes ... a business deal: if Andrew marries her, thus making her a U.S. citizen, she'll move

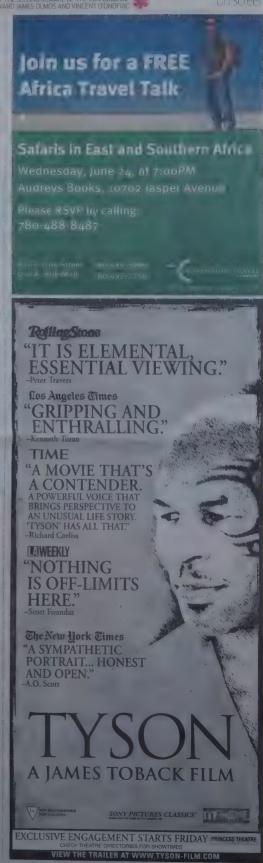


That Border is Even More Porous Than We Thought | In The Proposal, Rys

when Margaret ships off, he'll get

If blackmail was all it took to get gal in North America would be doa way to become both a cute comehis Abercrombie & Fitch tee. But as tory near-death experience, and the potential of Betty White becoming

brows - and her booty, in a wacky ty White? Well, she shows the kids





PELHAM (cont'd from p. 39)

the other side came to getting away. gle line of dialogue as memorable as Dick O'Neill's reaction when he hears that an armed gang has taken an entire subway car hostage: "Screw the goddamn passengers! What the cents - to live forever?" No, no, and definitely, no. but taken on its own terms, this shiny new Pelham is a perfectly enjoyable summer thriller.

And what the hell did you expect for your lousy 10 bucks - some kind of all-time classic?

Denzel Washington takes over the Walter Matthau role as Garber, the train dispatcher who has to negotiate over the radio with the gangleader in the subway car. Even with some extra padding around his middle, Washington is clearly a movie star playing an "ordinary Joe" - but unlike many movie stars. Washington seems to genuinely enjoy engaging with his co-stars and playing much the entire movie in separate off their energy, and he gets a good rhythm going over the airwaves with John Travolta, who's in full, flamboyant, hambone Broken Arrow/ Swordfish bad guy mode here. He's great fun to watch, although his performance doesn't leave a lot of room for the other actors in his gang, including Luis Guzmán, to make much

The film's premise requires Washington and Travolta to spend pretty

locations, and it's too bad Scott and screenwriter Brian Helgeland don't come up with any interesting business for the two adversaries when they finally meet. The one frisson is purely visual: Washington's left ear is pierced with a small diamond stud, and Travolta wears an earring too, this one shaped like a cross And when the two men finally stand face to face, their earrings sparkle at each other.



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MOVIE GUIDE · WHAT'S PLAYING IN THE THEATRES



Hunter And Gatherer | Jack Black and Michael Cera get primitive in Year One PHOTH COURTES VITE COLUMBIA PURPLES

OPENING THIS WEEK

AWAY WE GO

John Krasinski, Maya Rudolph, Allison Janney, Maggie Gyllenhaal, and Paul Schneider star in Revolutionary Road director Sam Mendes' comedy/drama about a young expectant couple who take an extended road trip to search for a new city to live in. Screenplay by real-life husband and wife Dave Eggers and Vendela Vida.

CANADIAN BIKE SHORTS

A compilation of short films from the 2008 Bike Shorts Film Festival in Vancouver Metro Cinema, Mon, June 29 (7pm)

THE PROPOSAL

Sandra Bullock. Ryan Reynolds, Malin Akerman, and Mary Steenburgen star in director Anne. Fletcher's romantic comedy about a publishing executive who forces an employee to marry her in order to avoid being deported to Canada — and then must spend a weekend with his parents in Alaska in order to maintain the lie.

THE RISING TIDE

Director Robert Adanto's documentary about the newest generation of Chinese artists and their innovative takes on the enormous so-clal, economic, and cultural transformations taking place around them Metro Cinema June 19-21, 23 (Fri, Sun @ 7pm, Sat, Tue @ 9:30pm)

ST. ELMO'S FIRE

Local actors Dave Clarke and Jeff Page pro

vide a humourous live running commentary to this screening of *Batman and Robin* director Joel Schumacher's 1985 diarma starring Rob Lowe, Judd Nelson, Demi Moore, Ally Sheedy, and Andrew McCarthy as a group of young people adjusting to post-collegiate life *Metro Cinema: Wed., rune ?4. (Bpm)*

TRANSFORMERS: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN

Shia LaBeouf Megan Fox Josh Duhamel, Tyrese Gibson, and John furturing star in Michael Bay's extremely noisy sequel to his 2007 blockbuster about enemy armies of granti Shape-shifting (obots who trun: Earth into their battlefield. (Opens Wednesdav)

MUSAL

Black and White director James Toback's documentary profile of Mike Tyson, in which the disgraced heavyweight champion talks in length about his relation-

HIGHT AT THE MUSEUM: BATTLE OF THE SMITHSONIAN PG

Mon-Thirs, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30, Sot-See: 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30

ship with trainer Cus d'Amato, the rise and fall of his boxing career, and his 1992 rape conviction.

WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS?

Pamela Tanner Boll's documentary about five women who have struck a balance between creativity and caregiving as they raise their children while simultaneously pursuing a career in the arts Metro Cinema. June 19-27. 23 (Fn. Sun io. 9:30pm. Sat iii 8 7pm, Tue iii 7pm.)

YEAR ONE

Jack Black, Michael Cera, Olivia Wilde, Paul Rudd and David Cross star in Ghostbusters director. Harold Ramis historically inaccurate comedy about a pair ill mismatched neanderthals who roam through a series of famous Biblical scenarios after their tribe banishes them from their village.

SHOWTIMES JUNE 19-25.

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2020 SHERWOOD DR., SHERWOOD PARK • 416-0150
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THEATRE PREVIEW . OFF-THE-CUFF COMEDY . BY KATHLEEN BELL 1573 words

This Kind Of Stuff Just Can't Be Scripted!

IMPROVAGANZA CONTINUES ITS RELENTLESS CAMPAIGN TO **PUT CANADA'S PLAYWRIGHTS OUT OF BUSINESS**

IMPROVAGANZA

Varscona Theatre (10329-83 Ave) and 8-Scene Studios (8217-104 St.) June 17-77 Tickets available at the door or in advance through TIX on the Square (tixonthesquare ca/420-1757).

I recently attended a high school graduation and the drama teacher there gave a speech advising the graduands to live their lives by the rules of improv.

"It's cheesy but great," says Kevin Fire Theatre and the grand co-ordinator of Improvaganza, Edmonton's biggest annual improv comedy festival. A half-smile reaches the edge of his lips, while his eyes are caught in a half roll. "I would never be so cliché, but I applaud it.'

"She means live in the moment, she means say yes to things, she means look out for your partner,' things be in the moment, say yes to opportunities that come your way, and the people you're working with, work with them, try to make sure they look good as well. Those are some of the golden improv rules. It's not that crazy to translate them to

Seems like the foundations of improv are pretty simple - say yes and play nice. But the diversity among individual improv groups is what makes a festival like Improvaganza less of a self-help workshop and more of a laugh attack, with each performance hitting your funny an act like Colombia's La Gata, who



bring their background in circus performance to bear on their show, to National Theatre of the World, who research a specific playwright and proceed to do all their improvisations in that writer's signature style, Gillese is set on bringing as wide a spectrum of improv to Edmonton as he can. Not to mention each group's associated "cred."

"In National Theatre of the World," he says, "it's Ron Pederson, who is from Edmonton and went on to Mad TV and now is living out in Toronto. This is his new group. He's also working with Matt Baram and Nao-

mi Snieckus, who are former Second City performers, so you can see that the calibre of all these groups is always really high.'

Gathering that quality of performer isn't hard, according to Gillese, because Edmonton has a pretty exalted reputation of its own.

"It's interesting, because there's sometimes groups that we can't necessarily afford," says Gillese, who admits that some groups have turned down initial invitations due to the festival's budgetary constraints - only to reconsider soon after. "They'll turn around and be

like, 'We've heard Improvaganza is pretty much the best festival in Canada, so we're going to cough up our own cash to make sure that we can get there.' Once that starts happening you're like, 'Wow! I guess I've got to really preserve this experience and make sure people keep telling each other that this is the festival to be at."

Under Gillese's guidance, Improvaganza has become a true extravaganza. In addition to the traditional improv battles, the festival also features standup and sketch comedy - some of it courtesy of Halifax's Panicface, the good folks who brought you the "Powerthirst" You-Tube viral video - as well as musical guests. They've even expanded the festival beyond its Varscona Theatre headquarters and into B-Scene Studios on certain nights, and each evening will begin with a short clip from the Improv Monologue Project. Talk about side-splitting - Improvaganza is practically bursting at the seams.

And if, after all that, you still can't decide whether to attend, why not do as the improvisers (and the drama teachers) do, and just say yes.

ARTS NEWS - NOTABLE HAPPENINGS FROM THE THEATRE TO THE GALLERY

The work of young Chinese artists such as Cao Fei, Xu Zhen, and Zhang O are hot commodities on the bienniale circuit; and yet, argues documentarian Robert Adanto in his film **The Rising Tide**, many of those artists' Western admirers have only an imperfect understanding of the cultural and political context in which their work was created. Metro Cinema is doing its part to enlighten local art fans: they'll be holding screenings of The Rising Tide between June 19-23 with Adanto himself in attendance - plus live streamed chats with some of the artists profiled in the film. Go to metrocinema.org for full details.

Flowers Bloom Through Concrete

Concrete Theatre is an especially vital component of Edmonton's theatre scene: not only are they the city's premier creators of plays for young audiences, but they're also our most aggressive commissioners of work by local playwrights. They've just revealed the contents of their 2009-2010 season, and two of Arts' News favourite Edmonton writers are part of the lineup; Collin Dovle, author of the hilariously profane The Mighty Carlins, has a new play called Routes going on tour in November; and improv queen Jana O'Connor has a droll-sounding puberty allegory called The Early Bloomer debuting in February.

Commissioner Gordon

It's always encouraging to see an Alberta publisher supporting Alberta playwrights especially one whose work is as wide-ranging in theme and form as Gordon Pengilly. The new anthology Metastasis and Other Plays collects three of the Calgary writer's best work: Edmontonians may recall Northern Light Theatre's 1995 production of Metastasis directed by D.D. Kugler. But perhaps Seeing in the Dark (a radio play first broadcast by the BBC) and Drumheller or Dangerous Times (which exists as a stage show, a radio drama, and a screenplay) are more representative of Pengilly's protean pen.

Pixels At

An Exhibition



Digital Dystopia | "What happens III all those row materials that we use for constructing new hip condos?" asks Admen Cho His

FUTURE IMPERFECT USES
MODERN TECHNOLOGY TO
CREATE IMAGES OF A WORLD
TECHNOLOGY HAS DESTROYED.
PRETTY IRONIC, EH?

FUTURE IMPERFECT
Curated by Adrien Cho. The Big Tent, Sir Winston Churchill
Souare, June 19-July 1 (Tlam-9pm).

It's fitting that the art exhibition Future Imperfect would look to digital artists to envision the impact today's lifestyle habits will have 100 years down the line. After all, the 14 professionals from the film, game, and entertainment industry who have contributed pieces to the show are all trained to drive technological acceleration – and, judging by a sneak peak of some of their work, that impetus lends an effortless self-reflexive quality to the images the create.

"Technology is becoming obsolete so fast," says curator Adrien Cho, "and we're not reaching a point where design objects are sustainable, so it's incomplete cradle to grave — [products] end up in dumpsters instead of being recycled into something else. Part of the show is looking into the future and saying, "These things that we take for granted as the comforts of life — what kind of impact will they have?" It carries so much weight asking if it was really worth it in hindsight."

Cho associates the post-apocalyptic nature of much of the exhibit with the style of science fiction writer Philip K. Dick – the man whose drugged-up, hallucinatory take on monopolistic corporations and militant societies was translated into such dystopian films as Blade Runner, A Scanner Darkly, and Minarity Benerit

Take "Building Better Tomorrows," for example, a piece that imagines Evian as one of the few surviving companies in a growing pile of rubble. In artist Matthew Rhodes' view, water — presently an abundant re-

source – will one day become worth its weight in gold, giving companies that trade in its distribution inordinate power in m world gone to ruin.

That's not to say all the works in the exhibit are about doom and gloom, though; others take a cheeky approach to future troubles, offering caricatures of mutant old men against surrealistic backgrounds, or using a graffiti style to show lovers in gas masks. Other pieces are reminiscent of Manufactured Landscapes photographer Edward Bur tynsky's beautiful but terrifying images of post-industrial society; they abstain from classifying the future as good or bad and focusing instead on the bizarre beauty to be found in destruction.

But regardless of where works stand on the call for change, each one fulfils the second function of the exhibit - namely, to tackle misperceptions about digital art's viability as a medium for self-expression. "It doesn't get a lot of respect, because I think people see a lot of bad Photoshop," says Cho, who argues all good art must abide by the same rules of composition, colour theory, and design. That's why, in a bid to help viewers appreciate digital art as art, he decided not to display the works onscreen, where it would be easy to dismiss many of them merely as stills from animated movies. Instead, each piece will be printed onto framed 40" by 30" canvases

"From a distance, it mimics traditional painting," Cho explains, "and putting a physical artifact in the room is a way of solidifying it as an art object. Maybe it will let people appreciate the work for what it is instead of how it was made."

And so, Future Imperfect is ushering in a new wave of artists who, in this exhibit at least, use an upand-coming medium for a haunting cause – crafting esthetically pleasing pictures of futures we don't want to see, silently begging us to change MUSIC PREVIEW - AT THE WORKS - BY PIOTR GRELLA-MOZEJKO 1530-WOOD

Twenty Years Of Beautiful Noise

BEAMS MARKS THE START OF THEIR THIRD DECADE WITH FOUR FREE CONCERTS AT THE WORKS, OPEN YOUR EARS!

BEAMS ME THE WORKS

featuring Karen Porkka, Don Ross, Gene Kosowan, Daw-Wall and others. Sir Winston Churchill Square, Wed-Sat, June 24-27 (6 ISpm), Free.

An old and rather shabby audio cassette lies on my desk. I just ferreted it out of the drawer where I keep my tapes. No future for them. They be already dead. Time to digitize their content.

And yet I play with the cassette for a munite or so, delighting in the feel of the still-shiny case and its perfect, nicely proportioned, angular shape. Then I open it and study the insert, the text laid out on the intentionally cheapish grey marble stock ("Printed On Recycled Paper"). The top cover design is basic but effective. It large thumbprint juxtaposed on diagonal lines of quasi-typewriten text, each line repeating three words. A BEAMS Compilation And then the beautifully palindromic date. 1991.

I read and reread the title, my head full of nostalga: B&AMS stands for Boreal Electroacoustic Music Society and the cassette was my recording debut ...

"Yeah, that was our first release Cool. eh?! And the whole thing started just a couple of years earlier!" enthuses the current BEAMS president, Don Ross. Don, himself a noted composer, member of the Canadian Music Centre, and sought after clarinettist who specializes in New Music (the term first coined and introduced by classical musicians), only joined BEAMS in 2002, but knows its history well. "It was a bunch of crazy CJSR DJs bent on presenting experimental stuff who actually founded the organization. People like Christine Chomiak, Marcel Dion, Bill Damur, also Gene Kosowan, Paul Morris, the very young Shawn Pinchbeck.... Some of them disappeared, some of them are still around it must've been quite special,

Yes it was I remember vividly the excitement when our music was broadcast on Bill Damur's CJSR show, and when that first cassette was in the making. "Big deal!" one might scoff, but big deal it was. "Sure," agrees Ross, "it was a very big deal because nothing like that had ever been done here. One more thing, cassettes were a legitimate format then."

BEAMS' success is all the more remarkable because of the chronic shortage of stable funding. "We had



e Interpretation of BEAMS |

very little money in the past." Ross says, and we have almost no mone now. Nothing's changed.

Hes too modest totall about it but Ress is largely responsible for the positive turn of fortune resulting in compact discs which enjoy impressive rotation nationally and abroad; unusual fundraising and presenting initiatives like experimental concerts cum fashion shows; and effective, often interdisciplinary collaborations with other groups — like The Works, for instance, who generously offered BEAMS four spots this year to help the society celebrate its 20th anniversary. To put it in the briefest of terms, BEAMS' prestige inversely proportional to its meagre

from almuscle or rather complete lies nereot. They pure hisbove their weight and with

by AMS is year true guassionts organization. Ross savs. We exist and make art outside the holy system. We dely stereotypes and predations of doorn. BEAMS is inclusive we do not want to create artificial divisions, we want to encourage unorthodox creativity as long as people intend to explore new and wonderful technologies — and experiment with them."

And hence this little society's importance, which many larger, officially supported mastodons may only dream of, no matter how long their existence



Youth! Glittering, Glittering Youth!



Romance With Robert | Lovesick Vanessa Lever dreams oil marrying a mayoral also-ran in Letters to Noce, one of the plays at this sear's Nextfoot. PROTER BY LICEN PROTEINS.

It's m pleasure (and a relief, quite frankly) for SEE to report that this is one of the strongest years ever for new Nextfest plays. Here's our reviews of the shows — well, most of them. Sorry, Lapse: your first performance doesn't happen until after we go to press. And sorry, Fish at the Bottom of the Sea: A Multi-Disciplinary Collaboration in the Spirit of Magic Realism: your incredibly long title totally scared us away. Nextfest continues until June 21; the complete schedule of plays and other events can be found at www.

SEE SPENT LAST WEEKEND

DUCKING THE SUN AT NEXT-

FEST — BUT IT WAS PRETTY

BRIGHT IN THERE AS WELL

nextfest.ca.

This affectionate cornedy about the world of computer garning follows the lives, both real and virtual, of three hard-core garning geeks (played by Michael Davidson, Brennan Campbell, and Dan Dobranski, who also wrote the script). The show is paced almost as fast as a videogarne itself, with one short, funny scene following another: we meet a guy so determined to be the first to buy a new garne that he unknowingly won't even allow the employees into the store to sell it to him; and we visit a party where NES shows off his new grandson Wii to Sony and Microsoft at a party.

The play assumes a certain level of gaming knowledge on the part of the audience (or that everyone knows someone with a gaming fixation), and indeed most of the laughs come not from the storyline but the smart jokes about videogame logic. The highlight is probably the monologue "Things I've Learned From Videogames," which includes such maxims as "Italian plumbers get all the ladies" and "Playing a guitar is as easy as pressing five buttons." —Michelle Garcia

* * * strstr

BULL SKIT!

Against the Wall Theatre definitely deserves credit for ambition: for the last six months, this young comedy troupe has been staging monthly variety shows in their hometown of Red Deer, each one an all-new potpourri of improv, music, and sketches. They obviously have an eye on the future, and their Nextfest show (a collection of their best material) is even preceded by a flashy video that seems designed as the opening credits for the TV show they hope one day to star in

It might be a little while before the networks come calling; <code>Bull Skitl</code> is still a little ragged around the edges, both in terms of writing and performing. But it's a promising sign that their skits aren't empty pop-culture parodies; they feel more like miniature plays in the tradition of the old <code>Carol Burnett Show</code>, with the focus on character instead of

punchlines. I'd encourage them to ditch the improv and hook up with a director who can help them improve their staging and fine-tune their performances, and they could turn into a fresh presence on the Alberta comedy scene. —Paul Matwychuk

EL DORADO

John King thinks his schizophrenic father is dead and is called to Vancouver to make final arrangements. What he finds instead of a body is ■ cryptic note and a really freakin' cool car - a red 1972 Cadillac El Dorado convertible. The inevitable questions send him on a cross-country adventure, searching for his father, his sanity and his own proverbial city of gold. Writer/performer Joel Crichton's script is snappy and strikes a nice balance between humour and melancholy; as an actor, he performs his own words well, playing multiple characters with ease and proving himself a charming and charismatic performer. Although the ending is predictable and somewhat trite, El Dorado, like John King's life, is about the journey, not the destination. - Marliss Weber

FALSE START

Joel Bazin's False Start has good intentions and some funny moments, but unfortunately, that isn't enough to keep it from coming off as overthought and confusing. Within the first five minutes, you learn it takes place in "the mind"; you also meet the hero, I talking tree guarding a dream in the form of a seed. The play continues in a hazy, magical state with characters visiting from abstract magical lands and acting out their stories on stage.

The play turns a corner, however, when the seed is "born" and comes alive as a clown named Boom Boom, who then begins exploring his surroundings. Suddenly the audience is part of the play, helping to teach the loveable clown to bite into an apple and avoiding him as he learns to brandish a foam sword. It's all a little too abstract for its own good, but it did manage to get some genuine laughter from the crowd and Bazin's message about the importance of nurturing dreams comes through loud and clear. —Michelle Garcia

LADYVISION

Picture a post-apocalyptic cross between those old *SNL* sketches starring Gilda Radner as a hyperactive girl playing make-believe games in her bedroom, and that *Simpsons* episode where Krusty the Clown takes over a remote TV transmitter and uses an old battery and a dead scorpion to improvise "The Stingy and Battery Show," and you'll have some idea of Jill Pollock's terrific one-woman show *Ladyvision*.

Apparently the only survivor of some nameless catastrophe, Pollock's heroine

amuses herself by starring in her own TV show, "filmed" by two cardboard camer as operated by stuffed animals. Pollock dances, displays her handmade picture frames, plays the ukulete, and reviews books with titles like Modems Made Easy and Microwaving Meats, all with an improvisational comic energy that is us inspired as it is unstoppable. What a talent! (You've heard of actors who could read from the phone book and make it funny? Pollock reads from a book of carpet samples and gets laughs.) And then she delivers an ending that turns the rest of the play on its head and reveals the desperation underneath the hilarity. -Paul Matwychuk

LETTERS TO NOCE

From the moment Vanessa Warbucks spies Robert Noce at the headquarters for his unsuccessful 2004 mayoral campaign, she falls madly in love with him - and when she gets a secretarial job just seven floors down from his law office, her passion only intensifies. Sadly for Vanessa, Mr. Noce does not have a thing for obsessed Battlestar Galactica fans who follow him home and sny through the windows - and since Vanessa narrates her story in flashback from a cell in the Edmonton Remand Centre, we know this affair will probably not end with them eloping to his villa in Tuscany.

Writer/performer Vanessa Lever's one-woman show gets off to a promising start, but since she never provides any explanation whatsoever for what it is about Robert Noce that causes this apolitical young slacker to fall so hard for him, the play never moves beyond its one-joke premise. It's a play that could have been much funnier if it had gone even darker. Still, Noce himself was at the performance I attended, and he seemed totally charmed by it — maybe the real-life Vanessa still has a chance with him! — Paul Matwychuk

★★★☆☆

ONE HUNDRED DAYS OF SUNLIGHT

It takes 100 days of sunlight to grow a healthy crop of corn. How much sun (i.e., love, nurturing, attention, guidance) does a child need to grow into a healthy. functioning adult? Annette Christie poses this question in One Hundred Days of Sunlight, a sensitive, thoughtful, character-driven examination of three sisters' relationships in the aftermath of a school tragedy. Christie tackles gay issues and sisterly conflict amidst the high drama of a hate crime. The cast - Siona Gareau-Brennan, Mandy Stewart, and Faye Stollery - performs well in this challenging piece, and despite a tendency toward pathos, the emotional choices are clear and well defined and the relationships are finely drawn. A strong Nextfest piece. -Marliss Weber

"RIOTOUSLY FUNNY! THE PROPOSAL'IS WITHOUT QUESTION THE YEAR'S BEST COMEDY. "LAUGH-OUT-LOUD **FUNNY** Leonard Maltin "HYSTERICAL! SANDRA BULLOCK RYAN REYNOLDS ARE A MATCH **MADE IN COMEDY HEAVEN!** Scott Montz, ACCESS HOLLYWOOD **"BULLOCK AND** REYNOLDS HAVE A **CHEMISTRY THAT** WILL HAVE YOU CRYING WITH LAUGHTER SANDRA RYAN REYNOLDS STARTS FRIDAY For Theatres and Showtimes: Check local listings

EXHIBITS

210 AND RISING HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY, 3RD FLR. 10215-112 ST. TO JUL 18 Annual members' exhibition and sale

ANNUAL NAKED EXHIBITION HARCOURT HOUSE GAL-LERY, 3RD FLR. 10215-112 ST, TO JUN 27 Figure-based skill levels. Info: www.harcourthouse. HOT PIEK

DA VINCI: THE GENIUS TELUS RLD OF SCIENCE, 11211-142 ST, TO SEP 7 An exhibition focusing on the astounding range of scientific and artistic work by Leonardo da Vinci. FOLK ART GLENROSE HOSPITAL, MAIN FLOOR, 10230-111 AVE, 111 JUL 4

GLASS SOUL STEPPES GALLERY, 1259-91 ST.

TO JUL 6 Acrylic paintings on glass by Manola Bor-rajo. Contact Kelley, brent@bldg-inc.ca IIII schedule viewing HIGH ART MUTICULTURAL CENTRE PUBLIC ART GALLERY. 5411-51 ST, STONY PLAIN, TO JUL 8 Presented by students PUBLIC ART GALLERY, 5411-51 ST, STONY PLAIN, TO JUN 18 Presented by students from Memorial Composite High

MYSELF, THE PORTRAIT RED GALLERY, 9621 WHYTE AVE, TO AUG 30 A series of male self-portraits. Info: www.

NEW ART LOFT GALLERY, 590 BROADMOOR BLVD., SHERWOOD PARK, TO JUN 27 Every Thu and Sat. Info: 977-6374/449-4443.

A NEW LIGHT ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA, #100, 10230 JASPER AVE., TO AUG 23 An exhibition of post-impressionist NEW WORKS SCOTT GALLERY, 10411-124 ST, JUN 20-JUL 7 Steel sculpture by Peter Hide. Info: www.scottgallery.com.
THE PAINTER BT PRINTMAKER ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA, #100, 10230 JASPER AVE, TO AUG 23 Impressionist prints from the National Gallery of Canada. Info: www.

PREY LATITUDE 53, 10248-106 ST, TO JUL 11 Paintings and with images of little girls in dresses. Info: www.latitude53.

REAL LIFE ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA, #100, 10230 JASPER AVE, JUN 20 - SEP 2 Contemporary works by Ron Mueck and RESURFACING ROYAL ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL, 10240

KIN6SWAY AVE, TO JUN 29 Abstract mixed media paintings hu Kamlina Kowalski Info: 660-1064

10248-106 ST, TO JUL 11 A new exhibit by Daryl Vocat. Info: SENSE SUBLIME ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA, #100, 10230

JASPER AVE., TO JUN 28 19th-century landscapes from the AGA collection. Info: www.artgalleryalberta.com. SIGNS PROFILES PUBLIC ART GALLERY, 19 PERRON ST. ST. ALBERT, TO JUN 27 Pinhole, photo-illustration, mixed media

SIMPLICITY EXTENSION CENTRE GALLERY, MAIN FLOOR ATRIUM, 10230 JASPER AVE, TO JUL 1 A series of bowls by SOUNDSCAPES FAB GALLERY, FINE ARTS BUILDING, U OF A CAMPUS, TO JUL 4 Paintings by Kim Sala. Info: www. ualberta.ca//ARTDESIGN/html/fab/index.html. SPEEDING SUBJECT ART GALLERY OF ALBERTA, #100,

10230 JASPER AVE., JUN 20-AUG 23 Mixed media, drawings DISECTION OF THE PROPERTY OF T L'ALBERTA, 9103-95 AVE, JUN 19-JUL 7 Acrylic, watercolour, GALLERY, 35-5TH AVE, SPRUCE GROVE, TO JUL 4 Works by Mandy Archibald. Info: 962-0664.

TRANSITIONS HOMEFIRE GRILL, 18210-100 AVE, TO JUN 30 Skyline and prairie paintings merged with fabric by Judi

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM, 12845-102 AVE, TO SEP 13 More than 80 winning images culled from more than 36,000 submissions. Info: www.royalalbertamuseum.ca.
THE WORKS ART AND DESIGN FESTIVAL VARIOUS LOCA-

710NS, JUN 19-JUL 1 Presented by The Works International Visual Arts Society, Featuring over 200 exhibits from around

BALLET FOR THE YOUNG HORIZON STAGE, 1001 CALAHOO

FOOTLIGHT RHYTHMS CITADEL THEATRE, 9828-101A AVE., JUN 19-21 Presented by the Lecky School of Dancing. Info:

PARKLAND UKRAINIAN DANCERS HORIZON STAGE, 1001 CALAHOO ROAD SPRUCE GROVE, JUN 21 Year end co Doors at 2 and 7 p.m. info: 963-7171.

THEATRE

COSI FAN TUTTE TIMMS CENTRE FOR THE ARTS, 87 AVE & 112 ST, JUN 23 Mozart's tale of love and info

DIRTY ROTTEN SCOUNDRELS MAYFIELD DINNER THEATRE, 16615-109 AVE, TO JUN 10 The Broadway

musical about two down-at-heel con me to fleece a wealthy but naive woman Info. www.mayteldtheatre.ca.

LA CENERENTOLA TIMMS

CENTRE SOR THE ARTS, III AVE & III ST. JUN 24 The classic tate of Cinderella. with a twist. Tickets

MUSIC OF THE NIGHT WESTBURY

THEATRE, 10330-84 AVE, JUN 18-20 Comedy/ drama about a London wax museum where characters from Cats, Phantom of the Opera, Jesus Christ Superstar and Evita come III life. Doors at 8 p.m. Tickets.

THANK YOU MR. PRESLEY JUBI-LATIONS DINNER THEATRE (WEM), 8882-170 ST, TO AUG 16 Story & the Hearthreak Hotel, a little inn whose claim to fame is that Elvis

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HOT PICK











SEX - ADVICE | 1,221 words

Can Dan Bring Hope To My Hopeless Situation?



NOPE! WHETHER YOU STAY WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND OR RUN OFF WITH YOUR OLD FLAME, SOMEONE'S GETTING HURT

I'm going to say up front that I know I am a complete and total

I have been with my current boyfriend for about three years and we are living together. About a year ago, our relationship started to go bad when I found out I was pregnant and ended up having an abortion. Every time I look at him, all I see is this baby I didn't have and I feel horrible to the point where now I don't like him to even touch me anymore. I don't want to hurt him. I just don't see how I can carry on in this relationship anymore

Compounding all of that, an old flame from Europe is back in my life, and I am still in love with him and I know he still loves me. This guy was my knight in shining armor in college but he had to return to the U.K., so we couldn't really have anything. But now the possibility is there because our lives are at a stage where we could

move and make it work. I have no idea how to deal with any of this. The old flame looks better and better all the time and I am doing so badly here, but I don't want to hurt anyone. I don't see any route at this point that won't end with at least one person in tears. Please

Presumably there was a good reason why you decided against having a child with the boyfriend. Perhaps right time, DOOMD, but it seems more than likely you realized, conof your life just to spare his feelings, DOOMD, your resentments

Again, I don't see how this rela-

But none of that answers your question, does it? You've asked me to identify a way out - a route out - that spares everyone's feelings. Sorry, DOOMD, but I can't help you. If you pass on the Euro because you can't stand the thought of hurting the boyfriend, you'll be miserable. And only postponing his misery. Your resentments will grow and spread, like so many tumors, until they ultimateSex for my wife and me was okay but not great before our separation, but I know we both want it to be a rewarding part of our marriage going forward. Any thoughts? Will the memories of my affair partner fade with time? Can I somehow use my affair experience to build a better sex life with my wife?

Can't Shake The Other Woman

Maybe you and the wife just aren't as sexually compatible as you and this other woman, and never will be. Maybe the only thing you can do, CSTOW, is focus on the other things.

Sixteen months is way too soon to be discussing marriage? Really. Really?? How long are we sup posed to drag out the courtship Dan? While I agree with you that three months is much too soon, I'd argue my own personal case: My wife and I married almost a year to the day of our first date, and that was 26 years ago. So while your advice to Lady In A Relationship was sound, your blanket assessment of the relationship landscape overlooks those of us who have a brain. Jussayin'... Mr. Right

Good thing I give advice for a living, MR, and don't do binding arbitration People are free to disregard my rants if they think I got it wrong and make up their own minds.

And maybe I went a little over board: depending on the couple, 16 months could be the right time, or a right time, to start discussing marriage. Still, a long engagement is always a good idea, regardless of how long you've been dating

If you're positive he or she is "the one" at three months - or eight months, or 16 months he or she will still be the one at three years.

My fiancé and I - we're a straight couple - are getting married in July. We've lived together for four years, and as such we don't need any more than we already have. We're asking friends and family to make donations to nonprofits that are dear to us in lieu of traditional gifts. We're both grade-school teachers, so the bulk of our requests are related to the needs of our students. (Shameless plug: Refugee Women's Alliance and New Futures are two amazing programs that specifically serve students where we live.) We're including Planned Parenthood on our list, and we would like to include a nonprofit that advocates for marriage equality. Which one would you suggest? Soon To Be Married

Thanks for thinking of us, STBM. which is more than President Obama is willing to do: I would recommend that you put Lambda Legal (they're lawyers, they sue) and Freedom to Marry (they're advocates, they woo) on your list. Unlike most national gay organiza-Marry do good work and get results.

(my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at thestranger.com/savage. mail@savagelove.net

EVERY TIME I LOOK AT HIM, ALL I SEE IS THIS BABY I DIDN'T HAVE AND I FEEL HORRIBLE TO THE POINT WHERE NOW I DON'T LIKE HIM TO EVEN TOUCH ME ANYMORE, I DON'T WANT TO HURT HIM, I JUST DON'T SEE HOW I CAN CARRY ON THIS RELATIONSHIP ANYMORE.

sciously or subconsciously, that he wasn't the right person: he wasn't the man with whom you wanted to have children. Or perhaps the boyfriend was so strongly opposed to becoming a father that you decided to have an abortion - an abortion you instantly regretted and resent him for.

Either way, DOOMD, I don't see how your current relationship

And we haven't even addressed the existence of the Euro. You still have strong feelings for your old college flame - clearly - and if you stay with the boyfriend for the rest

ly kill this relationship. If the Euro has moved on by that point, then all three of you will wind up miserable

I've been married for 12 years. Six months ago, I separated from my wife, and during that time I had an affair. Ultimately, I figured out that I couldn't make a long-term relationship work with this "other woman," and I am now working to reconcile with my wife. But the sex with the affair partner was incredible - not just because she was new, but because we were highly compatible sexually. The sex was energetic and adventurous in ways that it never was with my wife.

So now I'm worried that though I think my wife and I can rebuild all the other parts of our mar-

I'll always unfavorably be comparing my wife to this other partner. (I should say that I fantasize often about the affair partner.)

the wife brings to the table, the emotional if not sexual satisfactions.

Sometimes we feel freer sexually when we're with people we care about less. When we're with someone we're never going to see again (a one-night stand) or someone we probably shouldn't see again (another woman), we're not as concerned about scaring that person off. When we're with someone who has "potential" - someone with long-term prospects - we tend to be a little more cautious. The stakes feel higher, and that can be inhibiting. We're less willing to take risks, we're less open, we're less likely to act on our fantasies

So it's possible that your problem with the wife isn't sexual incompatibility, CSTOW, but sexual inhibition. Have you tried fucking the wife like you fucked the other woman? Have you ever risked fucking the wife like you've fucked women who you're never going to see again?





CEX - BIOLOGY LESSON | 710 words

Knowing Male Anatomy Can Make A Vas Deferens In Your Life



MYMESSY BEDROOM JOSEY VOGELS
MEN ARE OBSESSED WITH
THEIR PENISES, BUT COULDN'T
PICK THEIR EPIDIDYMIS OUT IN

Hands up, guys, if you know where your epididymis is. How about your vas deferens? Your seminal vesicles? "Ah, seminal," I hear you say. "From semen — must be around my penis somewhere." And you definitely know where that is.

While most guys are made painfully aware of their scrotum area at some point growing up and it's impossible not to clue in to the ups and downs — and eventually the ins and outs — of one's penis, few men pay much attention to the inner workings of their privates. It's a bit like the stereo — if the outside buttons and knobs are all functioning and doing

their job, who needs to know what's going on inside?

But if women pay for their anatomical ignorance (with so much focus on that vagina, the clitoris of ten gets ignored until someone clues us in to its pure pleasure potential) men's ambivalent relationship with their privates can result in diseases like prostate or testicular cancer guing undetected until it's too late.

Many men also tend to put off going to the doctor, in part because they aren't comfortable having a stranger touch their genitals And most guys won't even let their female partner stick a finger in their butt, never mind some dude in white coat - or. heaven forbid, dudette - no matter how professionally qualified. I don't expect guys to get naked and sit in circles together holding hand mirrors between their legs, but a little heightened male anatomy awareness is not such a bad idea. After all, while the penis may be the star of the male genital anatomy show, it's just the, er, tip of the male reproductive iceberg.

Speaking of the tip, it's actually called the glans (that's right, same as women's clitoral head) and it con-

tains the urethral opening, or meatus, where pee, semen, and pre-ejaculate, um, come out. Uncircumcised guys (more on the issue of snipping later) wear a hoodie, just like the ladies, this extra layer of skin is the foreskin, or prepuce.

The glans, along with the corona (that's the raised ridge that separates the tup from the shaft and the fremum or trenulum, the underside of the corona, just below the glans), are the most sensitive parts of the penis. And despite terms like "boning" or getting a "boner," the penis wactu ally boneless (though you can still break it). An erection is just a penis full of blood. And, despite popular opinion, an erection doesn't automatically mean you're aroused.

The scrotum, more commonly and oh-so-charmingly referred to as "the bag" or "ballsack," houses and protects the testes or testicles, your sperm storage tanks, pulling them up sale and warm when they're cold, letting them hang and get some air when they're hot, keeping your swimmers at just the right temperature to do their job. The line down the centre of your scrotum is

not where you were sewn together, it slip raphe and indicates the internal wall in muscie that separates the boys. The testes themselves produce testosterone and sperm

As for the epididymis that's affile comma-shaped thing on the back of each testicle where the sperm lie awaiting lift off. When you ejaculate the sperm are ejected into the vas deferens and these tubes send it off to your seminal vesicles where it joins all the other fun stuff that make up semen (sperm's only about 2-5 per cent of the mix the rest of the stuff consists of various contra-

butions from the prostate, the Cowpers glands, and the vas deterens and the seminal vesicles themselves and they all head out together for ejaculation.

Blogs We Love

Be it i great sexy story, the sexual position of the week (Jigsaw Side straddler anyone?), or a list of the Top to Things You Don't Want Your Girl To Find In Your Secret Drawer" you'll find lots to entertain, amuse and arouse you on Montrealer Lexi Sylver's blog "Mating Season" in lexisylver wordpress.com







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ASTROLOGY - JUNE 18-24 - BY THE KID

CRUISIN' THE COSMOS

CANCER (JUNE 21 - JULY 22)

What you need is a different kind of 12-step program. The first step is always to admit you have a problem, so stand up and say "Hi, my name is ____. I'm a Cancer and a lovaholic." This week it's important that you don't let Love cloud your vision or chances are good you'll make a bad decision!

LEO (July 23 - August 22)

You're the Queen-King of the jungle and, as any member of royalty can attest, your subjects don't always think your ideas are the best. Well, that's just tough tamales, ain't it? If you don't like somethin', you can change it. This week, ignore any and all opposition if you truly make an honest and fair deci-

VIRGO (August 23 – September 22)

Don't be so hasty to say "see ya" to what seems like a crazy idea. It's crazy, all right. Crazy like a fox — this could break you outta your self-imposed box! You've got nothin' to lose and a lot to win so why not let the games begin? There ain't no better time to take a crack than now, while the wind's at your back!

LIBRA (September 23 – October 22)

This week, what'll at first seem pretty crappy'll end up makin' you very happy. That's why you might wanna hold off on drastic action - you'll only end up havin' to make a retraction when things actually turn out to your great satisfaction. Wait for the dust to settle before you do anything that'll require you to backpedal!

SCORPIO (October 23 – November 21)

Lookin' for a li'l strategic jewel? This week it's better to play the fool. In fact, flagrant folly'll be your best friend, by golly! Brag about bein' a buffoon, natter on about bein' a nut, cackle about bein' crazy in copious amounts but remember - you're an iceberg. It's what they can't see that really counts!

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 – December 21)

Looks like you've got the cosmic equivalent of writer's block. Well, don't fret 'cause there's hope yet. Startin' Monday, you'll be amazed at the results you'll see if you release your creativity from captivity. If you give your imagination the free rein it deserves, it'll maximize the potential of your brain's reserves!

CAPRICORN (December IN - January 19)

This weekend it's better for you to keep to yourself 'cause the way things are goin' you're gonna hurt someone else. You'll get so caught up in pursuin' success that you'll create an ensuin' mess by either bein' too greedy or by ventin' your stress. Time to check your ambition before puttin' yourself in a bad

AQUARIUS (January 20 - February 18)

Before you consider your life as a curse, remember that even if it's bad, it could been worse. It's amazin' how good lookin' your life can be if you see it with a bit o' relativity. It ain't the changes you're goin' through that cause you discomfort and strife, it's

PISCES (February 19 - March 20)

There's generally two things that can happen to a fish outta water. The first is that you'll flip 'n' flop around on the ground, flappin' your gills, makin' grim gaspin' sounds while fightin' for oxygen. The other is that you won't let the fact you've got gills box you in and you'll

ARIES (March 21 - April 19)

This week it'll seem like you're bogged down in mire fire. Well, you've definitely hit a rough patch on your wrath. All you've gotta do is keep sloggin' through and the way'll soon clear up for you!

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20)

Here's the deal, Ferdinand: the longer you sit there sniffin' flowers, the faster you diminish your powers. You need to use 'em or lose 'em and they've been dormant too long, so now's the time to start makin' 'em strong. This week, if you take any opportunity that arises, you'll not only get strength but also some pleasant surprises!

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)

At the start of the week it's imperative for you to stand your ground and not let anybody push you around. For that matter, don't let 'em pull you either. You know exactly what you need to do, so don't let anyone manipulate you into not carryin' through just 'cause they're offerin' other opportunities to you!



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YOU GOTTA START SOMEWHERE

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ACROSS

1 nova

6 "What's Happening!!" character

9 Mister Rogers

13 Reversed

14 Space opener

15 Reside

16 "How to __ Book" (1940 book of

literary guidelines)

17 His film debut was a bit part in

"Donnie Darko" (2001)

19 His film debut was as Billy Crystal's son in "City Slickers" (1991)

21 "__ Yuppie Scum" (T-shirt slogan) 22 "The -Weed Factor" (John Barth

23 California State Route 1 along the

shore, for short

26 Ready to serve

30 Knuckleheaded 34 Fire in the blood

35 His film debut was in "Curly Sue" (1991) as a sort of villain out to get the

title girl

37 Half-moon tide 39 Acid in proteins

40 "M*A*S*H" actress

41 His film debut was as a subway

thief in "Heartburn" (1986), with Meryl Streep and Jack Nicholson

44 Prefix before friendly

45 "La Boheme," e.g.

46 Start of el calendario

50 Prompt

47 Toon dog of the 1990s 48 Racecar driver Foyt and CNN host

Hammer

52 His film debut was as the Dog-

60 His film debut was as Woody Al-

61 "What am I gonna do this time?"

Murder Mystery" (1993)

63 45-across selection

64 Composer Camille Saint-

67 Spaghetti western composer

1 Dubai (world's tallest skyscraper,

65 New Mexico art colony

62 Early Peruvian

66 Bumped into

Morricone

DOWN

as of 2009)

2_Day vitamins

4 Agreed (with)

3 Mt. Rushmore's loc.

5 Slow compositions

6 Film geek's spool

7 Johnson of "Laugh-In"

9 Squiggles in one's vision

11 First name in motorcycle stunts

10 Capital on the Baltic

8 Prostitute's clients

len's college-aged son in "Manhattan

Faced Boy in "Big Top Pee-wee" (1988)

spinoff 20 Gossipy sorts

ing pinkie: abbr.

12 Rec room

23 Liberal, epithetically

24 Radiohead hit of 1992

14 Where J is represented with a mov-

18 "The Mary Tyler Moore Show"

27 Home of ASU's main campus

28 Bird-related 29 British coins

31 Less shopworn

32 7UP competitor

33 He sang about Bennie 36 Force through intimidation

38 Amazonian chompers

42 Malaysia's current prime minister Tun Razak

43 Part of a jokey coin flip proposition 49 "Get outta here!"

57 Actor Hawke

52 Eric of 2009's "Star Trek"

53__ Domani

54 "The Way __ " (Timbaland song) 55 "Think nothing_

56 Deg. for a grad student in film

studies 57 Spooky sign

58 Rajah's wife

59 "This touches me __ many levels". 60 Bump on the forehead, perhaps?

EY WERE IN THAT

JONESIN' CROSSWORD BY MATT JONES

MUNICIPAL HAPPENINGS - WITH BILL BENSON















INTERSECTIONS · PHOTOS OF OUR NEIGHBOURHOODS



tOb

Matt Schuurman's face is obscured by a car air freshener on June 7 as he stretches his legs during a stop on a gravel road outside Mundare.

PHOTO BY MERYL SMITH LAWTON

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You get so involved, you forget you need to take a rest.

WRITER MARK WELLS SPOKE TO RETIRING ALBERTA NDP LEADER RAJ PANNU ABOUT REACHING THE "POPULAR CLASSES"

"I like to appeal to what they call in Latin America the popular classes. The people we want to reach and touch, they constitute a much broader sense of the population that we on the left have traditionally believed. I do believe we can cut across those party lines, class lines, lines of visible ethnicity and gender, and appeal to people by saying there are certain things in the public sphere we need to stand for."

Of course, that approach requires energy, and even

Pannu admits that the late evening sessions favoured by the governing party, combined with a pro-public healthcare campaign that started in the summer of 2005, exposed him to his own physical limitations. "When you get into politics because you want to change things for the better, not just to get in power, you get so involved, you forget you need to take a rest."

Although the political veteran is hanging up his shoes, his spirit is strong and he's satisfied his run was a good one. "It's been a great time. The honour of being there when I was needed was itself a gift I can never forget."



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